PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

36768

FIFTH SESSION OF THE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1919

75

Vol. LXXV (Nos. 1 to 5)

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Governor of Madras.

His Excellency Lord Erskine, G.C.I.E. Took his seat on the 15th November 1934.

Members of the Executive Council.

1. The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., Finance Member. Took his seat on the 19th March 1930 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Provincial finance.
2. Pensions.
3. Local Fund audit.
4. Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts.
5. Central Record office.
6. Elections for Indian and Provincial Legislatures.

II.—Central Subjects.

1. (*a*) Defence of India.
   (*b*) Naval and Military works and cantonments.
2. External relations, including naturalization and aliens and pilgrimage beyond India except to the Hedjaz.
3. Relations with States in India.
4. Political charges.
5. Communications.
6. Posts and telegraphs and telephones, including wireless installations.
7. Sources of all-India revenues.
8. Currency and coinage.
9. Public debt of India.
10. Savings banks.
11. Indian Audit Department.
12. Commerce, including Banks and Insurance.
13. Trading Companies and other Associations.
14. Opium (Central questions regarding —).
15. Central Research.
16. Ecclesiastical.
17. Archæology.
18. Regulation of ceremonial titles, orders, precedence and civil uniform.
19. Subjects not allocated elsewhere.

2. The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, Law Member. Took his seat on the 25th April 1934 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Administration of justice, including constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction within the province.
2. Provincial law reports.
3. Administrator-General and Official Trustees.
4. Escheats.
5. Coroners

I.—Provincial Subjects—cont.

6. Treasure-trove.
7. Non-judicial and judicial stamps.
8. Prisons and prisoners.
9. Industrial matters included under the following head: Electricity, including hydro-electric scheme.
10. Forests (including Cinchona) except panchayat forests.
11. Minor Ports.

II.—Central Subjects.

1. Civil law.
2. Inventions and designs.
3. Copyright.
4. Criminal law.
5. Major ports.
6. Shipping and navigation.
7. Lighthouses.
8. Port quarantine and marine hospitals.

3. The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM, Home Member. Took his seat on the 16th August 1934 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Police, including Railway Police and C.I.D.
2. Regulation of betting and gambling.
3. Prevention of cruelty to animals.
4. Control of poisons.
5. Control of vehicles.
6. Control of dramatic performances and cinematographs.
7. Control of newspapers, books and printing presses.
8. European vagrancy.
9. Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards.
10. Government Houses, Staff and equipment of His Excellency the Governor.
11. Government Presses.
12. Industrial matters included under the following heads :—
    (*a*) Factories.
    (*b*) Settlement of labour disputes.
    (*c*) Boilers.
    (*d*) Gas.
    (*e*) Smoke nuisances.
    (*f*) Welfare of labour including depressed classes.
13. Criminal tribes.
14. Stores and Stationery (required for Reserved Departments).

II.—Central Subjects.

1. Control of petroleum and explosives.
2. Central police organization.
3. Arms and ammunition.
4. Emigration and immigration
5. Pilgrimage to the Hedjaz.

4. The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER, C.S.I., I.C.S., Member in charge of Revenue. Took his seat on the 3rd January 1935 :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Land Revenue administration as described under the following heads, namely :—
   (a) Assessment and collection of land revenue.
   (b) Maintenance of land records ; survey for revenue purposes ; records of rights.
   (c) Laws regarding land tenures ; relations of landlords and tenants ; collection of rents.
   (d) Court of Wards, encumbered and attached estates.
   (e) Land improvement and agricultural loans.
   (f) Colonization and disposal of Crown lands.
   (g) Management of Government estates.
   (h) Panchayat forests.
2. Yeomiahs, inams and hereditary pensions.
3. Water-supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments ; water storage and water power.
4. Inland waterways including shipping and navigation thereon.
5. Economic condition including wages and prices and famine-relief.
6. Land acquisition, excepting notifications under sub-section (1) of section 4 and declarations under sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, where the public purpose referred to in the said sub-sections appertains to a transferred subject.
7. Development of mineral resources.
8. Protection of wild birds and animals.
9. Pounds and prevention of cattle trespass.
10. Provincial gazetteers.
11. Agency tracts.
12. Laccadives.
13. European and Anglo-Indian education.
14. Fortnightly reports and preliminary special reports to the Government of India.
15. General service questions.
16. Office procedure.
17. Secretariat.
18. Matters of a general nature not allocated elsewhere.

II.—Central Subjects.

1. Geological survey.
2. Mineral development.
3. Botanical survey.
4. Survey of India.
5. Zoological survey.
6. Meteorology.
7. Census and Statistics.
8. Territorial changes.
9. Immovable property in possession of the Governor-General in Council.
10. All-India services.
11. Public Services Commission.
12. Reforms.

Ministers.

1. The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI, Minister for Local Self-Government. Took his seat on the 5th November 1932 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

1. Local Self-Government including village panchayats.
2. Medical administration.
3. Public Health and Sanitation and Vital Statistics.
4. Religious and Charitable Endowments.
5. Adulteration of food-stuffs and other articles.
6. Light and Feeder Railways and Tramways within municipal areas.
7. Stores and Stationery (required for Transferred Departments).

2. The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN, Minister for Public Works. Took his seat on the 5th November 1932 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

1. Agriculture.
2. Civil Veterinary Department.
3. Public Works (Buildings, Roads, Ferries, Ropeways, etc.).
4. Co-operative Societies.
5. Registration.
6. Weights and Measures.

3. The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR, Minister or Education and Excise. Took his seat on the 5th November 1932 nd is in charge of the following portfolios :—

1. Education (other than European and Anglo-Indian education).
2. Excise.
3. Development of Industries.
4. Fisheries.
5. Libraries, Museums and Zoological Gardens.
6. Pilgrimage within British India.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President.

The Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI.

Deputy President.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur G. JAGANNADHA RAJU Garu.

Panel of Chairmen.

M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI Avargal.
,, U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT Avargal.
MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur.
MR. DANIEL THOMAS.

Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., M.L.

Assistant Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA Garu, B.A., B.L.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Madras City, Muhammadan Urban.
2 Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, Moulvi Hafeez Anumanthakudi Mustapha.	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly, Muhammadan Rural.
3 Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
4 Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	NOMINATED.
5 Annamalai Chettiyar, S. A. A.	Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association.
6 Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.	Central Districts—Indian Christian.
7 Arasu, V. T.	NOMINATED.
8 Ari Gowder, H. B. ..	The Nilgiris, N.-M. Rural.
9 Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Central Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
10 Basu Dev, C.	NOMINATED.
11 Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ceded Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
12 Bhanoji Rao, A. V.	NOMINATED.
13 Birley, Frank	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
14 Davis, O.B.E., J. A.	Anglo-Indian.
15 Devadasan, M.	NOMINATED.
16 Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	NOMINATED.
17 Duraiswami Reddiyar, K. M.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
18 Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
19 Foulkes, R.	NOMINATED.
20 Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
21 Harischandrudu Nayudu, A. ..	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.
22 Indrayya, C.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
23 Iswaran Pillai, I. C.	Tinnevelly N.-M. Rural.
24 Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G. (*Deputy President*).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
25 Jagannatham, H. M.	NOMINATED.
26 Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
27 Jones, I.C.S., C. E.	NOMINATED.
28 Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, K.	Cocanada City, N.-M. Urban.
29 Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Madura and Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam, Muhammadan Urban.
30 Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
31 Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
32 Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.	NOMINATED.
33 Krishnan, C.	NOMINATED.
34 Krishnaswami Ayyar, *Kt.*, Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.	NOMINATED.
35 Krishnayya Choudari, P. V.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
36 The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri (Raja Velugoti Sarvagnya Kumara Krishnayachendrula Bahadur Varu).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
37 Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. (*Minister*).	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
38 Kuppuswami Choudari, J. ..	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
39 Langley, Mr. W. K. M. ..	Madras Planters.
40 Madanagopal Nayudu, R. ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
41 Madhusoodhanan Thangal, P.	NOMINATED.
42 The Maharaja of Venkatagiri (Sri Raja Velugoti Sir Govinda Krishna Yachendrula Bahadur Varu, K.C.I.E., Lieutenant-Colonel).	North Central Landholders.
43 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Northern Circars, Muhammadan Rural.
44 Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	South Kanara, Muhammadan Rural.
45 Manikkavelu Nayakar, M. A.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
46 Metherell, J. K.	European, Madras Presidency.
47 Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
48 Moses, P. C.	Northern Districts, Christian.
49 Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. ..	Madura *cum* Trichinopoly, Muhammadan Rural.
50 Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	NOMINATED.
51 Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
52 Muthiah Chettiyar, M. A. ..	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
53 Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
54 Nachiyappa Gounder, K. A. ..	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
55 Nadimuthu Pillai, A. Pl. N. V.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
56 Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.	NOMINATED.
57 Narasa Reddi, T.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
58 Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
59 Narayanan Nambiyar, V. P.	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
60 Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
61 Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
62 Palat, R. M.	West Coast Landholders.
63 Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.	EX OFFICIO.
64 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, C. R.	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
65 Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
66 Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
67 Pattabhiramayya, K.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
68 The Pattagar of Palayakottai (Rai Bahadur Nallathambi Sarkarai Manradiyar).	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
69 Peddi Raju, P.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
70 Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B. ..	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural
71 Premayya, G. R.	NOMINATED.
72 Rajagopala Pillai, P. V. ..	NOMINATED.
73 The Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. (Sri Ravu Swetachallapathi Ramakrishna Ranga Rao) (*Minister*).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
74 The Raja of Kallikote (Raja Sri Ramachandra Marda Raja Deo Garu).	Northern Landholders, I.
75 The Raja of Parlakimedi (Sri Sri Sri Krishna Chandra Gajapathi Narayana Deo Garu).	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
76 Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T. (*Minister*).	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
77 Ramachandra Padayachi, P. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
78 Ramachandra Reddi, The Hon. Mr. B. (*President*).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
79 Ramakrishna Reddi, A. ..	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
80 Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
81 Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.	NOMINATED.
82 Raman Menon, K. P. ..	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
83 Ramaswami Ayyar, T. S. ..	Madras University.
84 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
85 Rameswara Rao, G.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
86 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, A. ..	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
87 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, G. ..	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
88 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, M. D. T.	Tinnevelly *cum* Palamcottah N.-M. Urban.
89 Rangaswami Reddi, M. B. ..	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
90 Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
91 Ratnavelu Tevar, P. ..	Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam, N.-M. Urban.
92 Russell, I.C.S., T. B.	NOMINATED.
93 Sahajanandam, Swami A. S...	NOMINATED.
94 Santhana Gounder, I. ..	Tanjore and Trichinopoly *cum* Madura (Christian).
95 Scott-Brown, I.C.S., W. ..	NOMINATED.
96 Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
97 Shetty, A. B.	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
98 Simhachalam Pantulu, Gade.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
99 Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N. ..	NOMINATED.
100 Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, K. S.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
101 Smith, J. M.	Madras Trades Association.
102 Soundara Pandian, W. P. A.	NOMINATED.
103 Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.	EX OFFICIO.
104 Sreshta, M. S.	West Coast, Christian.
105 Srinivasa Ayyangar, T. C. ..	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
106 Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.	NOMINATED.
107 Sriramulu, G.	NOMINATED.
108 Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.	EX OFFICIO.
109 Subbarayan, Dr. P. (The Zamindar of Kumaramangalam).	South Central Landholders.
110 Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.	NOMINATED.
111 Subrahmanya Bhatt, U. C. ..	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
112 Sundara Rao Nayudu, T. ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
113 Syed Tajnddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.	Tanjore, Muhammadan.
114 Thomas, Daniel	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly, Christian.
115 Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., H. R. ..	NOMINATED.
116 Vasudeva Pillai, V. G. ..	NOMINATED.
117 Vedachala Mudaliyar, M. ..	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
118 Venkatarama Ayyar, K. R. ..	Madura City, N.-M. Urban.
119 Venkata Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K.	EX OFFICIO.
120 Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
121 Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.	NOMINATED.
122 Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	East Coast, Muhammadan Rural.

	Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
123	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.	North Arcot *cum* Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
124	The Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur (Kamaraja Pandia Nayakar, T. V. K.)	Southern Landholders.
125	The Zamindar of Chemudu (Sri Vyricherla Narayana Gajapati Raju).	Vizagapatam City, N.-M. Urban.
126	The Zamindar of Kirlampudi (Sri Raja Ravu Ramakrishna Ranga Rao).	NOMINATED.
127	The Zamindar of Minampalli (K. C. M. Venkatachala Reddiyar).	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
128	The Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Mirzapuram Raja alias Venkataramayya Appa Rao).	Northern Landholders, II.
129	Vacant	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
130	Vacant	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
131	Vacant	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
132	Vacant	Madras Chamber of Commerce, Commerce and Industry.

Special Members.

133	Champion, H.	Nominated for the consideration of the Madras Public Libraries Bill.
134	Krishnaswami Ayyar, Rao Bahadur K. V.	Nominated for the consideration of the Madras Public Libraries Bill.
135	Javad Hussain Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Nominated for the consideration of the Madras City Municipal Act (Amendment) Bill.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

Fifth Session of the Fourth Legislative Council, under the Government of India Act, 1919.

Wednesday, the 20th February 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.
Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Jagannatharaju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-la Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Krishnaswami Ayyar, *Kt.*, Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, *Rao Bahadur* C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur B.
Premayya, Mr G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott-Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.

PRESENT:—*cont.*

Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
Yakub Hasan, Mr.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—NEW MEMBER.

Mr. J. M. Smith made the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Crown and then took his seat.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Commerce

Import of rice into Madras.

* 600 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) with reference to the answer given to clause (*b*) of question No. 299, dated 25th of October 1934, when the Madras Government addressed the Government of India and how many times they have been reminded; and

(*b*) whether any final orders have been received since?

A.—(*a*) The Government of India were first addressed in the matter in July 1933. They have since been reminded five times.

(*b*) No.

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—"May I know whether any instructions were given by the Government of India in connexion with the import of rice?"

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—"We have no information."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether the Government of India are waiting for the rise in prices before coming to any conclusion?"

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—"I do not know what the Government of India are waiting for."

Administration of Justice

Location of a Sub-Court at Tanuku, West Godavari district.

* 601 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indrayya: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any memorials were sent up to the High Court and the Government for the location of a Sub-Court at Tanuku in the district of West Godavari;

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(*b*) whether it is a fact that three District Judges recommended to the High Court the location of a Sub-Court at Tanuku; and

(*c*) if so, what action has been taken by the Government?

A.—(*a*) No such memorials were received by the Government. The Government have no information whether the High Court received any, but have called for it.

(*b*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

(*c*) Does not arise.

Refund of court-fees on suits compromised before civil courts.

* 602 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a letter, dated 23rd December 1933, from me (Mr. Rangaswami Reddi) regarding the refund of court-fees in compromised suits in civil courts; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken by the Government so far?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Forests

Restoration of forest concessions in South Kanara.

* 603 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to answer to question No. 154 whether any orders have been passed concerning the representations of the people of South Kanara to restore the forest concessions; if not, what the delay is due to?

A.—Yes. A copy of the order has been communicated to the Honorary Secretary, South Kanara Landholders' Association.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know why the Hon. Member has not placed the order on the table of the House?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"If the hon. Member wants to have a look at it, he is welcome and I shall show the order to him."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether it is agreed on principle that at least with reference to the forests other than the 17 forests mentioned therein, it is not advisable to withdraw the concessions?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I wish the hon. Member should see the order before a question is put, because something has been said in it on the point mentioned by him."

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Proposals, if any, for the restoration of forest concessions in South Kanara.

* 604 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether Government have passed any orders regarding the restoration of the concessions withdrawn in some of the reserved forests in South Kanara?

A.—Orders were issued on 26th January 1935. A copy of the order was communicated to the Secretary, South Kanara Landholders' Association.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know what orders have been passed on this matter?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I should prefer that the hon. Member had a look at the order: I shall place it in his hands before this afternoon."

Representations for the disreservation of Thoppur and Barigum Reserve Forests, Salem district.

* 605 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations have been received for the disreservation and assignment of lands in Thoppur and Barigum Reserve Forests in or about the year 1929 or 1930;

(*b*) if so, what has been done with them;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the District Forest Officer, Central Salem, recommended disreservation of about 1,340 acres in the said reserves;

(*d*) if so, what has been done in the matter; and

(*e*) if the recommendation of the District Forest Officer was turned down, by whom it was done, what are the reasons therefor and whether a copy of the order in the matter will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*e*) In 1929, the District Forest Officer, Central Salem, received petitions praying for the disreservation and assignment of portions of the Thoppur and Barigum B Reserved forests. He inspected the lands and recommended the disreservation of 1,340 acres. On further investigation it was found that there were about 8,000 acres of unreserves in the taluk of which at least half was fit for cultivation. The Chief Conservator of Forests therefore decided that the areas in question need not be disreserved. In view of the above information the Government do not consider it necessary to place a copy of the Chief Conservator's order on the table of the House.

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Chief Conservator's order contains only the information which has been furnished here, or anything more? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" There must be something more: only the relevant portions are quoted here."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Will the Hon. Member be pleased to consider the question of placing a copy of the orders of the Chief Conservator on the table of the House? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I do not see the need for it, because they refer to other matters also."

Comparative receipts and expenditure of the Forest Reserves handed over to Forest Panchayats in the Bellary district.

* 606 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of the forest reserves in the Bellary district with extents handed over to forest panchayats for management and the reserves with extents still in the charge of the Revenue and the Forest departments respectively;

(*b*) the income which the Government were getting from each of the forest reserves included in the two classes referred to above before they were handed over to the forest panchayats and the expenses they were incurring in the maintenance of each of them; and

(*c*) the lease amounts which the forest panchayats are now paying for the areas in their respective charges and the establishment expenses and the other charges the panchayats concerned are required to bear and how they compare with the receipts and expenses while the reserves were in charge of Forest department?

A.—(*a*) The information is contained in Appendix I (1) [a]. There are no reserves still in charge of the Revenue department.

(*b*) The information is not readily available.

(*c*) Information regarding the lease amounts paid by the panchayats for the areas under their control and the expenditure of the panchayats are given in Appendix I (2) [a]. No comparison can be made with the receipts from and expenditure on the reserves while they were in charge of the Forest department since this information is not available.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I know whether by giving the reserves to the panchayats, the Government are realizing more money by way of additional tax from the ryots? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" Notice, Sir."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 100–103 infra.

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—" May I know with reference to clause (c), whether the Government were managing better when the reserves were in charge of the Forest department, than at present? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" Where the panchayats are managing properly, certainly it is better."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I know whether the Government are prepared to enquire and see that wherever they have got panchayats moneys should not be collected by two permits for the reserves? Hitherto they were collecting by one permit, but now by granting such areas to the panchayats the Government are collecting from the panchayats as well as from the ryots, and thereby realizing double the amount. Will Government look into the matter and take the necessary steps? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I am not quite sure of the correctness of the statement made by the hon. Member, but I shall examine the question."

Control of Vehicles

Number and amount of tax on motor buses plying for hire during the quarter October to December 1934.

* 607 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the number of buses for hire plying in each district during the quarter commencing from October 1934; and

(*b*) what is the total amount of fee collected as a result of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act from those buses in that quarter in each district?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) A statement [a] is appended.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know, Sir, whether Government will be pleased to get the information referred to in clause (*a*)? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" It is not worth while getting the information considering the amount of labour involved thereby."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Will the Hon. the Home Member give the income in previous quarters for the North Arcot district? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether the total amount collected during this quarter of this year is less or more than that collected during the corresponding quarter last year? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" Notice, Sir."

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 104 infra.

Land Revenue Administration

Relief measures taken in the Bellary district since 1920.

* 608 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: With reference to the Bellary district, will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state for each of the years or faslis, as may be convenient from 1920, so far as information is available—

(*a*) the amount advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, respectively;

(*b*) the amount of principal and interest on loans advanced under the two Acts which were (1) suspended, and (2) remitted;

(*c*) the amount of land revenue and cesses, (1) suspended and (2) remitted;

(*d*) the amount spent for relief of distress in the form of (1) famine works, (2) other ways; and

(*e*) other relief and its estimated value by way of free grazing, remission of grazing fees and any other methods respectively?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) Particulars are given in Statements[a] I and II annexed.

As regards the relief of distress in the current fasli the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer, to question No. 590 which was answered on 30th January 1935 and to the answer to question No. 591 which was answered on 30th January 1935. Three test works have since been converted into relief works.

(*e*) Reserves were thrown open for free grazing and for the cutting and removal of grass all through the famine period in the year 1921–22. No information is available as to the estimated cost of this concession.

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" May I know whether any reserves have been thrown open this year? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" Yes, Sir."

Assignment of lands disreserved in the Mallapuram area, Salem district.

* 609 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Salem accepted the offer of free labour for line clearance in the Mallapuram disreserved area;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Collector assured the ryots that the claims of those who have thus put up free labour will be considered at the time of assignment of that area;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the survey department maintained a regular darkhast register with full particulars of those who cleared the lines;

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 105–106 infra.

(*d*) if so, why such a register was maintained; how many persons were engaged for free labour in clearing the lines;

(*e*) if the answer to (*a*) and (*b*) be in the affirmative, whether the assurance of the Collector was adhered to at the time of making the assignment; if not, why not;

(*f*) how many of the persons who have put up free labour in clearing the lines have been given lands in the disreserved area; and

(*g*) whether the aggrieved persons have put in representations to the authorities in the matter and in what way they have been disposed of?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*g*) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I know, Sir, whether the report referred to here will be made available to the House?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"When I receive the report I will consider the matter."

Extent of land disafforested in the Mallapuram reserve and its assignment.

*610 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the total extent of land disafforested in the Mallapuram reserve in Salem district for the purpose of assignment;

(*b*) of these lands, how much has so far been assigned, and on what principles and on which order;

(*c*) when the rest of the lands is to be assigned, and on what principles; and

(*d*) whether the claims of those who have put up free labour for clearing the lines at the time of disafforestation will be duly considered; and if not why not?

A.—(*a*) 1,095·00 acres.

(*b*) An extent of 519·85 acres has been surveyed. Of this extent 459·57 acres have been assigned to the poor and needy ryots of Bimmidi and other adjoining villages under Board's Standing Order No. 15. An extent of 17·76 acres has been set apart as poramboke. The remaining extent of 42·52 acres has not yet been assigned owing to the lack of deserving applicants.

(*c*) The assignment of the remaining extent will be taken up when the survey which is now in progress is completed. The assignments will presumably be made in accordance with the provisions of Board's Standing Order No. 15.

(*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to his question No. 609.

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Formation of a new village in the disreserved area of the Mallapuram reserve, Salem district.

*611 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a village plan was drawn up for a new village in the disreserved area of the Mallapuram reserve in Salem district, and if so, by whom and whether he has personally inspected the spot;

(*b*) whether the plan was verified and, if so, when and by whom;

(*c*) whether house-sites have been provided for all those persons to whom lands have been assigned in the disreserved area; and

(*d*) if not, what the reasons therefor are?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, whether this report will be made available to the House?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I shall consider that when I receive the report."

Nomenclature of the disreserved area of the Mallapuram reserve as "Ramamurti Nagar."

*612 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations were received by the Collector of Salem in 1931 to name the new village to be formed in the disreserved area of the Mallapuram reserve as "Ramamurti Nagar" in honour of Mr. S. V. Ramamurti, I.C.S., who was the Secretary to Government in the Development department;

(*b*) if so, in what way they have been disposed of; and

(*c*) whether the Government have got any objections to the name proposed and, if so, what they are; and what name is proposed to be given to that village?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) *&* (*c*) The Government have no information, but have called for a report.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Will this report also be made available to the House, Sir?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Ditto, Sir."

Protection of Wild Birds and Animals

Damage to crops by wild animals in South Kanara.

*613 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any information regarding the damage done to crops each year during the last six years by wild beasts in South Kanara; and

(*b*) whether any wet and garden lands are left uncultivated on account of such trouble, and if so, the extent of such lands at present in each taluk of South Kanara?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have not the information.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to call for a report on this matter?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I am afraid it is not possible to get this information."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Why?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"The nature of the question suggests the answer."

Number of cattle killed by tigers in South Kanara during the last three years.

* 614 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of cattle killed by tigers in South Kanara during each of the last three years; and

(*b*) the number of rewards given for shooting tigers during each of these years?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have not the information, but have called for a report.

Reforms

Probable date of the next elections to the Reformed Legislature.

* 615 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the elections for the new Legislature are to come up; and

(*b*) what the recommendations of the Government are with regard to the constitution of the local Legislature and the division of constituencies, electoral qualifications, etc.?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) The Government have not made any recommendations on these matters.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Has Government provided money in the Budget on the basis of elections taking place this year?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"With reference to clause (*b*), may I know whether the Government of India have given any instructions or directions in the matter of delimitation of constituencies?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I am not aware of any, Sir."

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Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Has the Government of Madras received any directions from the Government of India asking them to make a provision for election expenses in the Budget of the *coming year?*"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"They have made some provision."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether it is due to any direction from the Government of India?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"May be, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why the Government have made provision in the coming Budget for elections?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"It is because of the possibility of elections taking place this year."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the Government have made provision only for part of the election expenditure or for the whole sum?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I would suggest to the hon. Member that he should wait and see what the Budget is."

Local Self-Government

Postponement of the elections to the Chingleput District Board.

* 616 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the term of the Chingleput District Board expired on 1st November 1934;

(*b*) whether the Inspector of Local Boards completed all preparations for the conducting of general elections to the Chingleput District Board and fixed up the 26th October 1934 for the elections;

(*c*) whether the Government did not approve of the date of the elections; if so, the reasons for the same;

(*d*) whether the Inspector of Local Boards again fixed up the 26th November 1934 for the elections and whether the Government again disapproved of the date;

(*e*) whether the Government have fixed the dates for nominations and elections, and, if so, what the dates are;

(*f*) whether the Government have appointed the District Collector to administer the district board since the 1st November;

(*g*) why the Government have postponed the elections depriving the rights of the rate-payers to be represented; and

(*h*) whether the Government propose to bifurcate the district board?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes. Certain serious allegations made against the then President, District Board, were under enquiry at that time and the Government considered it desirable that the Collector should be in charge of the district board administration for a time.

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(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The election authority fixed the 19th December 1934 for receipt of nominations and the 10th January 1935 for poll.

(*f*) The District Collector is in charge of the administration from 1st November 1934 under Section 22-A (2) (*a*) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

(*g*) Attention is invited to the answer to clause (*c*).

(*h*) The question is under consideration.

Legislative proposals, if any, for the appointment of Executive Officers to District Boards.

* 617 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any legislative proposals for the appointment of executive officers to district boards; and

(*b*) if so, what they are, and when they are likely to be brought into effect?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given on 23rd January 1935 to his question No. 479.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know, Sir, when the consideration of the appointment of executive officers is likely to become ripe for action? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I can only say the matter is under consideration."

Representation of Muslims in the cadre of Commissioners of Municipalities, District Health Officers and District Panchayat Officers.

* 618 *Q.*—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state how many Commissioners of Municipalities, District Health Officers and District Panchayat Officers have been appointed till now from the Muslim community?

A.—The number of Muslims appointed till now as Commissioners and District Panchayat Officers are four and two respectively. No Muslim has been appointed as District Health Officer so far.

S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—" Is it because no Muslim has applied for the post of District Health Officer? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" There has been no direct recruitment for the last two years as far as I am aware."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether the Government will consider the advisability of handing over the appointment of commissioners and district panchayat officers to the Public Services

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Commission in order to enable them to give effect to the Government Order by which minority communities will have a chance which they do not have under the present system?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"This question was answered before. Until those services are provincialized it is not possible to entrust these appointments to the Public Services Commission. As regards representation of minority communities, I believe in making these appointments the claims of all communities have been taken into consideration."

Renomination of Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar as a Councillor, Corporation of Madras.

*619 *Q.*—MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when Kumararaja M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad was nominated as a Councillor of the Madras City Corporation for the term previous to the present one, and when his councillorship of that term was due to expire in the normal course;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that he resigned his councillorship before the expiry of his term;

(*c*) if so, when he tendered his resignation, and whether a copy of his letter of resignation will be placed on the table;

(*d*) when and under what circumstances he was renominated to the same post; and

(*e*) whether the Hon. the Minister has admitted that he had gone out of the way in making the said renomination in the interests of his party?

A.—(*a*) Previous to the present nomination, Rajakumar M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar was nominated as a Councillor of the Corporation of Madras on 1st March 1932 and his tenure of office would have expired on the 1st March 1935 normally.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) He tendered his resignation on the 15th June 1934. His letter [a] of resignation is placed on the table.

(*d*) He was renominated on the 26th June 1934 on the recommendation of the then Mayor.

(*e*) No.

MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, whether the consent of the Member in question was obtained when he was renominated?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The usual procedure is to ask for his consent after Government have come to a decision on the point."

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 106 infra.

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" What are the special reasons for renominating a Member when he has resigned even before the expiry of his term? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Government have followed the usual practice and approved of the recommendation of the Mayor."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" With reference to clause (*e*), may I know whether it is a fact that the Hon. Minister has admitted in the course of his speech at a party meeting that he has gone out of his way to nominate this gentleman? " (Cries of ' order, order.')

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" What I said at the party meetings are matters which cannot be referred to here. As far as Government are concerned, they have accepted the recommendation of the Mayor."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" Has Government taken any application from the gentleman in question? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" The usual procedure is to submit these resignations to the Mayor of the Corporation, and the Mayor sends his recommendation to Government."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister denies the allegation that was made that the said renomination was made in the interests of the party? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" The question does not arise out of this."

Appointment of Mr. T. K. T. Veeraraghavachariyar, Retired District Board Engineer, as a Special Officer of the West Godavari District Board.

* 620 *Q.*—MR. C. INDRAYYA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Mr. T. K. T. Veeraraghavachariyar, Retired District Board Engineer, was appointed on the recommendation of the Government as a Special Officer by the West Godavari District Board;

(*b*) if so, for what purpose and for what period;

(*c*) what his pay including allowances is;

(*d*) what is the work he has so far done for the Board; and

(*e*) whether his period originally fixed has been extended?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) A copy of [a] G.O. No. 2612, L. & M., dated the 28th May 1934, is laid on the table.

(*d*) He has submitted a preliminary report of his investigation and the question whether further investigation is necessary is under consideration.

(*e*) The period was extended by two months.

[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 107 infra.

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Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" May I know whether the Government is prepared to place on the table the report made by Mr. Veeraraghavachariyar? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I believe this is still under the consideration of the Government."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know whether the previous President was given any opportunity to explain his position before this Special Officer and, if not, why not? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Before any conclusions are reached I do not think it will be possible to give opportunities to the President to explain his position."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know whether the Special Officer, when he was in service, was himself the Engineer during the period in question? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I am not aware of it."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know whether it is a fact that the Special Officer in his preliminary report has stated that the allegations made are baseless? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I have not seen the report yet. But I believe what the hon. Member says is not correct."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" What are the reasons for the Hon. Minister directing a second enquiry when he has not even read the preliminary report? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I am sure the hon. Member has not understood me. There is only one enquiry."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know whether the Special Officer now appointed was transferred when he was in service at the instance of the ex-District board president? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I must ask for notice."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" When the officer was appointed, it must have been within the terms of reference that he should go into the question and examine. I want to know whether it was not then necessary that he should have examined the ex-president of the district board before he came to any conclusion? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" As a matter of fact, the Special Officer has not yet come to any definite conclusions."

Supersession of Municipalities during the period 1932 to 1934.

* 621 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many municipalities have been superseded in the course of the years 1932, 1933 and 1934;

(*b*) what their names are, when and on what grounds each of them has been superseded; and

(*c*) who the chairman of each of such municipalities at the time of supersession was?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) A statement [a] is placed on the table.

Chairmen of Municipal Councils removed from office during the period 1932 *to* 1934.

* 622 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many chairmen of municipal councils have been removed from office during each year 1932, 1933 and 1934; and

(*b*) what their names and addresses are, to which municipality each of them was attached and on what ground each of them was removed from office?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement [b] is laid on the table.

Supersession of the Trichinopoly Municipality and its reconstitution.

* 623 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the supersession period of the Trichinopoly Municipality is to expire;

(*b*) when the new elections to that municipality are to be conducted;

(*c*) whether any special officer has been appointed to that municipality besides the Commissioner, and, if so, who he is and what his scale of pay and the present pay is;

(*d*) if the reply to (*c*) be in the negative, whether any additional pay or allowance or both are allowed to the Commissioner for doing the duties of the Chairman of the Municipal Council also; and, if so, what they are; and

(*e*) who the present Commissioner of the Trichinopoly Municipality is, what his pay and scale of pay is, and what appointment he previously held and on what pay and scale?

A.—(*a*) On 18th June 1936.

(*b*) Elections to the Council will ordinarily be conducted some time prior to 18th June 1936, unless the Government for sufficient reasons extend the period of supersession under section 41 (4) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920.

(*c*) & (*d*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given on 22nd October 1934 to clauses (*b*) and (*c*) of his question No. 164.

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[a] Printed at Appendix VI on page 108 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix VII on page 109 infra.

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(e) The present Commissioner is Mr. H. C. M. McLaughlin, who is a permanent Deputy Collector in the scale of Rs. 300—40—500 (efficiency bar)—50—850. As Commissioner he draws a special pay of Rs. 100 and a conveyance allowance of Rs. 40 per mensem in addition to his pay in the regular line which is Rs. 550.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know as to whether the supersession of the Trichinopoly Municipal Council was due to the fact that Mr. Tevar was re-elected? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" That is one of the reasons."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know as to whether the supersession has given rise to a volume of opinion against it? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" On matters like that, there will be opinions both for and against."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know why the Government 11-
did not consider the advisability, in each of these cases, of first dissolv- a.m.
ing the council so that a different set of councillors could be elected and the administration changed and improved and then if that expectation did not materialize, resorting to the extreme step of suspending the council? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" We are now concerned only with the question of Trichinopoly."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari :—" May I ask whether it is an offence for a local body to elect the man whom it likes? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" It is not an offence, but it was considered irregular to elect a person whose administration has been censured by the very council."

Purchase of the Caldwell Hostel buildings, Trichinopoly, for the location of a Municipal Dispensary.

* 624 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Commissioner, Trichinopoly Municipality, decided to purchase the Caldwell Hostel for a sum of Rs. 20,000;

(b) whether the building is fit for a dispensary;

(c) whether there are any alterations necessary for the building;

(d) if so, what the estimated cost is of the repairs;

(e) whether any engineer was consulted;

(f) if so, what the opinion is of the Engineer;

(g) whether the Government are aware that the building was originally designed and constructed for a hostel;

(h) whether the Government are aware that the National College authorities offered only Rs. 14,000 for it;

(i) whether the Government are aware that the building was available for sale for Rs. 15,000, a few months back;

(j) whether the Government are aware that the drainage water from the Rockfort houses flows through the building grounds;

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(*k*) whether the Government are aware that a suitable building for a first-class dispensary according to modern requirements could be constructed within Rs. 10,000;

(*l*) whether the building now occupied by the dispensary is available for lease for only Rs. 25 per month for any length of time;

(*m*) whether the Government are aware that the budget estimate for 1934–35 of the municipality reveals a deficit of Rs. 60,000, according to the Special Committee elected by the last Council and Rs. 35,000 according to the Commissioner;

(*n*) whether Government have received a mahazar from the rate-payers requesting them to stop the purchase;

(*o*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter; and

(*p*) whether the Government will place the Commissioner's report on the table?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) *to* (*d*) Yes. Some slight alterations and repairs have to be carried out at a cost of about Rs. 1,500.

(*e*) *&* (*f*) Yes. The Executive Engineer, Trichinopoly division, is of opinion that the building is most suitable for having the dispensary in the locality.

(*g*) Yes.

(*h*) *&* (*i*) The Government have no information.

(*j*) The Government have seen a report to this effect.

(*k*) The cost depends upon the value of the land to be acquired and the nature of the building to be constructed. The estimated cost of acquiring a site and of constructing a building for the dispensary at Teppakulam has not yet been worked out.

(*l*) The Trichinopoly Municipality is paying a rent of Rs. 25 per mensem for the portion of the building in which the Teppakulam dispensary is located. The owners of the building are anxious to get back the portion for their own use.

(*m*) According to the budget framed by the Commissioner, the general account was expected to open with a deficit of Rs. 86,965 but to close with a balance of Rs. 30,100; while according to the budget as amended by the Special Committee this account was expected to open with a deficit of Rs. 1,16,965 and to close with a balance of Rs. 25,590, credit being taken for a diversion of Rs. 60,000 from the water-supply and drainage account.

(*n*) A few persons have requested the Government to refuse sanction for the purchase of the building.

(*o*) The matter is under consideration.

(*p*) No.

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Elections to the Bezwada Municipal Council.

* 625 *Q.*—Mr. C. INDRAYYA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the period of supersession of the Bezwada Municipal Council expires; and

(*b*) whether the date for elections to the Municipal Council has been fixed?

A.—(*a*) On 24th April 1935.

(*b*) No.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know from the Hon. the Chief Minister whether it has been decided to throw open the Bezwada Municipal Council for election?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The matter has not yet come up for consideration of the Government."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know why the Government persist in the policy of curbing the development of local bodies in this Presidency by suspending for such long periods municipalities like Trichinopoly and so on?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"We are making attempts for the development on healthy lines of local self-government and not curbing the development of local bodies."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know from the Hon. the Chief Minister whether, when they fixed the period of supersession, they had not all the facts before them, and if so, why they are considering the question again?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, usually, just before the period of supersession comes to a close, proposals are submitted to Government and they consider the question whether further extension is necessary or not."

Levy of cart-stand fees by the Municipalities of Tiruppattur, Vaniyambadi and Tiruvannamalai.

* 626 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the question No. 220 answered on 23rd October 1934—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the municipalities of Tiruppattur, Vaniyambadi and Tiruvannamalai continue to demand cart-stand fees for vehicles that pass on roads which do not actually use the cart-stands; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to direct the stopping of such an abuse?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) Government will consider the questions if and when any specific instances of abuse are brought to notice.

Number of Presidents of Panchayat Boards removed from office during 1934.

* 627 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many presidents of panchayat boards have been removed from office in the course of the year 1934 under section 43 of the Local Boards Act (Amended); and

(*b*) who they are, and what the names of the panchayat boards and the districts to which they were attached are?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement [a] is placed on the table.

Districts to which panchayat officers have not been appointed directly by Government.

* 628 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) to which of the district or districts, district panchayat officers have not been appointed directly by the Government;

(*b*) what the reasons are therefor;

(*c*) whether there is any district panchayat officer in each of those districts;

(*d*) if so, who he is, what his educational and special qualifications are; and

(*e*) when such persons are likely to be replaced by appointments made by the Government?

A.—(*a*) The Nilgiris and Tinnevelly.

(*b*) (1) Tinnevelly—Government did not consider that a District Panchayat Officer was required at present; and

(2) The Nilgiris—Please see answer to clause (*d*) below. Government did not think it necessary to replace Mr. Bellie Gowder.

(*c*) Yes; in the Nilgiris.

(*d*) M.R.Ry. M. K. Bellie Gowder Avargal, an S.S.L.C. holder. He was a member of the Nilgiris District Board for about ten years and an honorary organizer of panchayats for over nine months before he was appointed as District Panchayat Officer by the President, District Board, and being a Badaga he is considered suitable for the post for the present as nearly all the panchayat work in the district is among the Badagas.

(*e*) Government do not at present think it necessary to replace Mr. Bellie Gowder.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I know, Sir, how many panchayats there are in the Tinnevelly district?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"I am afraid I cannot give a reply offhand. I think there are about 96 panchayats."

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[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on page 110 infra.

Election of a Vice-President to the Panchayat Board, Tanuku, West Godavari district.

* 629 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indrayya: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the election of the Vice-President for the Tanuku Panchayat Board in the West Godavari district has taken place; and

(*b*) if not, what are the reasons for postponing the same?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information.

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information and ascertain why the election of the vice-president has not yet taken place? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I have no objection to call for the information."

Appointment of an outsider as a clerk to the Panchayat Board, Tanuku, West Godavari district.

* 630 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indrayya: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the fact that an outsider has been appointed as a clerk in the Tanuku Panchayat Board of the West Godavari district contrary to the rules issued by the Government and overlooking the claims of the ex-employees of the taluk boards; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to cancel the said appointment?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—" May I ask whether the Government would call for a report in cases where the district boards and panchayats appoint outsiders in preference to ex-employees of taluk boards and not simply say that they have no information even when an instance of such action is brought to their notice? Is it not their duty in such cases to call for the papers and take action? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" The Government have issued instructions more than once that outsiders should not be appointed and that only persons from the waiting list should be appointed. Whenever petitions are received from the parties, the Government are going into the matter. Apart from this, I do not see what further action the Government can take."

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—" When this matter is brought to the notice of Government by a responsible Member of this House, is it not their duty to call for a report and ascertain the facts? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" If any person affected requests the Government to look into his case, the Government will take action."

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MR. P. PEDDI RAJU:—" May I say, Sir, that persons affected will be hundreds and not one or two. So, on behalf of the ex-employees, a Member of this House brings the matter to the notice of the Government and requests them to call for a report, will not the Government call for a report and take necessary action?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Yes. I shall call for a report."

Regularization by Government under section 67 (3) of the Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1934, of the strength, scale of pay, etc., of district board establishments.

* 631 *Q.*—MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in how many departments of the district boards, the Government have regularized the strength, scale of pay, etc., under section 67 (3) of the Local Boards Act (Amended Act), 1934;

(*b*) what the other departments are of the district boards wherein such regularization is to be introduced and when;

(*c*) whether such regularizations are to be brought to panchayat boards also; and

(*d*) if so, when it is likely to be brought in?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Government have fixed the designations and grades of and the scales of salaries and allowances payable to, officers and servants in all departments under district boards. The strength of the ministerial staff of each district board and that of the medical and non-medical staff in local fund medical institutions in certain districts have been fixed and the question of fixing the strength of other staff is under consideration.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The question is under consideration and orders will issue in due course.

MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know, Sir, when the strength of the staff of the remaining departments of district boards will be fixed?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I think the whole thing will be completed in a month's time."

Pay of the secondary grade teachers under local bodies.

* 632 *Q.*—MR. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued any order fixing the pay of secondary grade teachers in local bodies; and

(*b*) if so, what is the estimated saving or loss in each district thereby?

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The approximate saving or loss so far as information is available is furnished in the appended statement.*

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I ask why the information with regard to certain districts has not been given?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"We have given the information that is available in the Secretariat."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to give any contribution to those district boards which are incurring heavy loss on account of the introduction of the revised salary?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"This question refers to secondary grade teachers. As far as these employees are concerned, the orders of Government do not entail any additional expenditure."

Public Health

Grant to the Municipal Council, Coimbatore, for the extension of water mains in the town.

* 633 Q.—Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Municipal Council, Coimbatore, has applied for the usual Government grant in connexion with the extension of water mains in the town under the Siruvani water-supply scheme;

(b) whether it is a fact that the application has not been sanctioned pending the arrangement to make provision by the Council for removing the turbidity in the water by filtration—an item of work not contemplated in the original scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Council has also agreed to finance the filtration scheme under the usual conditions relating to grants by Government for such purposes and also for permission to proceed with the work of providing additional mains in the town after sending plans and estimates therefor; and

(d) when the Hon. the Chief Minister expects to come to a decision on the application of the Council?

A.—(a) to (c) Yes.

(d) The Sanitary Engineer has recommended that it is not desirable to carry out any further extensions until steps are taken to remove the turbidity of the water and improve its quality through filters or other methods. The Sanitary Engineer's proposals in this regard are awaited and on their receipt the question will be considered.

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* Printed as Appendix IX on page 110 infra.

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Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister why there is so much delay in the matter and when the Sanitary Engineer's proposals referred to in the answer to clause (*d*) of this question may be expected? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" When this matter was taken up for consideration it was found that owing to a defect in the filtration process impure water was coming into the taps. Before the tap system is further extended, it is considered desirable to set this right."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Do the Government know that the matter has been hanging fire for a long time? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I shall see that the matter is expedited."

Preparation of plans and estimates for the supply of drinking water from Mettur dam to Salem town.

* 634 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a communication has recently been sent to the Salem Municipal Council to state their views with regard to the proposal for drinking water supply to their town from Mettur;

(*b*) whether a copy of it will be placed on the table;

(*c*) whether a copy of the reply of the municipal council will be placed on the table;

(*d*) whether orders have been passed for preparing plans and estimates;

(*e*) if so, when and, if not, why not;

(*f*) what will be the probable cost for the preparation of plans and estimates;

(*g*) whether the municipality or the Government are to bear it; and

(*h*) when the scheme is expected to be accomplished and at what cost?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) A copy [a] of G.O. No. 2715, P.H., dated the 22nd November 1934, and the Council's reply to it is placed on the table.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) *to* (*g*) A special staff is necessary for the purpose. The cost of this staff is estimated at Rs. 2,700 and it should be borne by the municipal council. The council has been asked to report whether it is prepared to meet this cost and its reply is awaited.

(*h*) The scheme is expected to be completed in six years from the date of its execution. If a special staff is sanctioned, it will take more than a year to get the plans and estimates prepared and sanctioned. The cost of the scheme is estimated at Rs. 22 lakhs to install and Rs. 59,115 to maintain.

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[a] Printed as Appendix X on pages 111–115 infra.

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Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I ask the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government whether the sum of Rs. 2,700 mentioned in the answer to clauses (e) to (g) of this question represents the entire cost of the plans and estimates or only a portion of it?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"It all depends upon the time taken to complete the plans and estimates."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I know how long the staff engaged on this work is expected to continue?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"We have not got full information. The amount shown is only a rough estimate."

Supply of drinking water from Mettur dam to Salem town.

* 635 *Q.*—Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in what stage the question of supply of drinking water to Salem town from Mettur dam stands;

(*b*) whether a deputation from the municipality of Salem town has waited upon His Excellency the Governor about this and what was the result; and

(*c*) the probable time within which this question will be settled?

A.—(*a*) & (*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 634.

(*b*) Yes. Orders have since been issued on the suhject and the council has agreed to finance the scheme on the basis of half-grant and half-loan.

Provision of a protected water-supply to Yedapadi, Salem district.

* 636 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether after August 1933 any representations have been received from the people of Yedapadi or from the panchayat board of Yedapadi in Salem district for providing a system of protected drinking water supply to their town; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken thereon, and when the system is likely to be sanctioned and brought into effect?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Education

Government colleges and schools to which appointment of Physical Director is still due.

* 637 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indrayya: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state the names of Government colleges and schools where Physical Directors have not yet been appointed and why?

A.—The employment of Physical Directors is compulsory only in the case of Arts Colleges. There is no Government Arts College without a Physical Director.

Introduction of the Champion Scheme.

* 638 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any schemes regarding the application of Champion Scheme; and

(*b*) if so, whether they will be pleased to place them on the table of the House along with the notes of the Director of Public Instruction and the orders of the Government?

A.—(*a*) Yes. Proposals for the consolidation and concentration of elementary schools in municipal areas have been received by Government.

(*b*) I will consider the hon. Member's suggestion.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I ask the Hon. the Minister for Education whether the Government have given effect to any of these schemes in any of the districts in the Presidency? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" No."

Retention of half-fee concessions in educational institutions.

* 639 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have finished their consideration of the question of the retention of half-fee concession in educational institutions undisturbed; and

(*b*) if not, the reasons for the delay?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 491.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know whether the Government have at least now come to any decision on this question? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Not yet."

Industries

Reduction of the wages of some workers of the Government Industrial Engineering Workshop.

* 640 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the wages of some workers of the Government Industrial Engineering Workshop have been reduced recently by nearly a third;

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(b) if so, who and how many are the workers affected by the reduction, and the length of their respective services, their present and past wages; and

(c) what the principle adopted was in regard to the reduction?

A.—(a) The wages have been reduced.

(b) Please see the statement [a] attached.

(c) In the case of unskilled labourers whose wages are debited to contingencies, their wages are fixed with reference to the prevailing market rate subject to the maximum of Rs. 15 per mensem. Heads of Departments are required to revise these rates from time to time and furnish in April to the Accountant-General a certificate that they have been so revised. The Government directed the observance of these orders in the case of the labourers under reference when it was brought to their notice that they were being paid at rates higher than the maximum. The Director of Industries has accordingly revised the wages with due regard to the length of service and the efficiency of the worker.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Control of Vehicles

Absence of the post of Motor Vehicle Inspector for the Madras City.

641 Q.—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many Motor Vehicle Inspectors have been retained in service in the Police department in the recent re-organization scheme, and for which of the districts;

(b) whether in the remaining districts Government have ascertained that the Superintendents of Police will be able to cope with work concerning motor vehicles, in addition to their other heavy work;

(c) whether it is a fact that though all the bigger districts in the Province have Motor Vehicle Inspectors, Madras City has no such officer; if so, what is the reason; and

(d) whether there is any connexion between this and the heavy loss of life in motor accidents in Madras City?

A.—(a) Fourteen Inspectors of Motor Vehicles have been retained permanently for the districts of North Arcot, Chingleput, Coimbatore, South Kanara, Kistna, East Godavari, Malabar, Salem, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Tinnevelly, Vizagapatam, Ramnad and Madura.

(b) Yes.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XI on page 115 infra.

(c) In Madras City the work is attended to by the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Licensing, who is a special officer dealing solely with these two subjects of traffic and licensing. There is therefore no need for an Inspector of Motor Vehicles.

(d) There has been no heavy loss of life from motor accidents in Madras City.

Inapplicability of the benefit of G.O. No. 311, Public (Services), dated the 13th April 1933, to the cadre of Motor Vehicle Inspectors.

642 *Q.*—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the protection given under G.O. No. 311, Public (Services) Department, dated 13th April 1933, to the pay of all persons who entered the service of Government before the date of this Government Order does not hold good only in the case of Motor Vehicle Inspectors of Police and, if so, why;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that although Motor Vehicle Inspectors have been placed in the same grade as Inspectors of Police, they draw a conveyance allowance of only Rs. 20 a month while the latter draw Rs. 25;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that these Motor Vehicle Inspectors have been prohibited from drawing travelling allowance for their tours though they are eligible to do so under the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules; and

(*d*) whether it is a fact that Government have refused to pay the provincial tax on motor vehicles owned as compulsory conveyances by Motor Vehicle Inspectors though Government have extended this concession to all other subordinate officers in the Police department and, if so, why?

A.—(*a*) Prior to the reorganization in May last, Inspectors of Motor Vehicles were entertained on a temporary basis and were subject to discharge without notice. These officers were therefore not governed by the Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules. The rules published with G.O. No. 311, Public (Services), dated 13th April 1933, which were issued in exercise of the powers conferred by the Classification Rules could not apply to persons who were not governed by the Classification Rules.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) As these inspectors draw conveyance allowance they are not eligible also to draw travelling allowance.

(*d*) No, when this matter was last raised, consideration was only deferred.

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Application of the lower scale of pay to Motor Vehicle Inspectors, despite their having held the appointment prior to 15th August 1931.

643 *Q.*—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state why in the case of Motor Vehicle Inspectors of the Police department the new and lower scales of pay have been given effect to even in regard to persons who had held the appointments before 15th August 1931?

A.—Yes: the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (*a*) of question No. 642.

Land Revenue Administration

Details of irrigation works in the Anantapur district to be included in the list of famine works.

644 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has ascertained with reference to the adjournment motion of 24th October 1934, as to what irrigation works in Anantapur district are included or are proposed to be included in the famine programme and if so, what they are;

(*b*) which of the said works are to be started immediately; and

(*c*) whether it is contemplated to take up all or any of the minor irrigation works mentioned in the Irrigation Committee Report of 1924–25 as famine works and if so, which of them?

A.—(*a*) The famine relief programme of the district contains in all 706 irrigation works for which estimates have been sanctioned. Of these 665 relate to tanks, 15 to nalas and 26 to supply channels to tanks.

(*b*) As soon as famine was apprehended in the district, the programme of ordinary Minor Irrigation Works under section 33-A of the Famine Code was expanded and the works specified in Annexure I [a] were taken up to provide employment in the several taluks as a measure of relief. The works shown in Annexure II [a] are still under execution.

(*c*) The Irrigation Committee did not specify the Minor Irrigation Works, to be taken up although it made mention of some projects. Of the minor projects referred to by the Committee all have been dropped except the Pennar Kumadavati Project which is under investigation. None of the works mentioned in the report of the Irrigation Committee are to be taken up as famine relief works.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XII on page 116 infra.

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Public Health

Proposals for the recruitment of L.M.Ps. as Health Inspectors.

645 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what are the qualifications of Health Inspectors;

(*b*) whether there is any proposal to recruit Health Inspectors from the ranks of L.M.Ps.;

(*c*) whether the duty of Health Inspectors is at present confined practically to inoculation and vaccination; and

(*d*) whether it is contemplated to appoint Health Inspectors who would be competent also to cure simple ailments of the rural people?

A.—(*a*) A candidate for appointment as Health Inspector—

(1) should possess the qualifications prescribed by the Local Government for appointment as a Sanitary Inspector or a Sub-Assistant Surgeon,

(2) should be able to read and write at least two vernacular languages of the Presidency of Madras,

(3) should, in the opinion of the appointing authority, be physically fit for camp life, and

(4) should not have attained the age of twenty-five if belonging to the Brahman, the Non-Brahman and Anglo-Indian or Christian or non-Asiatic communities and the age of 26 if belonging to any community other than the above communities.

(*b*) No, but in the Vizagapatam Agency trained medical men are appointed as Health Inspectors with a view to afford greater facilities for medical relief in that area.

(*c*) No. They have several duties to perform such as verification of vital statistics and vaccination, supervision of sanitary arrangements at fairs and festivals and generally work connected with sanitation and water-supply including propaganda.

(*d*) No.

Industries

Possibilities of glass manufacture in the Presidency.

646 *Q.*—Mr. M. Devadasan: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total quantity and value of imports into this Presidency of glass articles for the last three years is;

(*b*) what the total quantity and value of glass articles manufactured in this Presidency for the same period is;

(*c*) what proportion of the import is foreign; and

(*d*) whether the Government have investigated the possibilities of glass manufacture in this Presidency and if so, what is the result of the same?

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A.—(*a*) & (*c*) Please see the statement [a] attached.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

(*d*) Yes. It was found that general glass manufacture could be carried on only where coal, alkali and materials were at their cheapest and best and where there was an expert staff to instruct and guide the workmen.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

III.—ACTS ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce that the undermentioned Acts received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the dates mentioned against each :—

(1) The Madras Debtors' Protection Act—16th January 1935.
(2) The Madras Maternity Benefit Act—25th January 1935.

IV.—BUDGET FOR 1935-36.

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES :—" Sir, I have now the honour to present to the House, for the fifth and last time, the Revised Budget statements for the year 1934-35 just closing, and the Budget Estimate for 1935-36 about to open. Politically the year 1934-35 has been in this Province free from those disturbing agitations which in past years have so often affected, to their financial and economic detriment, various parts of India ; it is indeed a matter for congratulation that those who so long upheld and practised the methods of non-co-operation and civil disobedience have, at long last, come to see their mistake, and, one may hope, to realize the disservice to India and her advancement which recourse to such methods involves. From the agricultural and economic standpoint, however, there is not much comfort to be drawn from the year's record. That prices have shown improvement upon the whole cannot be denied ; the conclusion indicated by the special examination made towards the close of 1934 by the Board of Revenue in consultation with Collectors was that, broadly speaking, upon survey of the eight months ending December 1934, the prices of agricultural products, except those of the garden lands of Malabar and South Kanara, had been rising and had already in many cases reached a point higher than the level of prices during the corresponding period of the previous year, although still lower than those of 1928-29 (fasli 1338) which may be taken as the last year of high prices, and of fasli 1341 (1931-32), the last year in which no concessions were given ; there was also some reason to believe that the costs of cultivation, etc., had been gradually adjusting themselves to the altered conditions. On the other hand, the Government recognized that, having regard to other factors, such as the fall in the sale and lease value of land, and the contraction of credit, the agriculturist, while he might have benefited to some extent by the

[a] Printed as Appendix XIII on page 116 infra.

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tendency of prices to rise, had still not had sufficient time to recover from the depression to an extent which might justify a complete withdrawal of the concessions given or a material reduction in their scope. In view of these considerations the Government decided to renew, for fasli 1344, subject to a slight modification, the special concessions given for fasli 1343.

"2. Later statistics of the course of wholesale trade prices go to confirm the tendency to improvement which is indicated by the figures of internal prices given by Collectors. As regards rice, it may be admitted that the tendency is not so marked as in the case of other agricultural commodities. The difficulty of judging is, in this Presidency, enhanced by the fact that there is no single controlling market; the statistics, so far as available, seem to indicate that, at any rate, from the end of March to the end of November 1934, prices tended to rise; during December and the first week in January a fall occurred which coincided with the arrival of the new harvest. Since 7th January prices at Cocanada show a slight tendency to recover. As regards cotton, both Westerns and Tinnevellies have improved during January last. Towards the end of that month Westerns were quoted at 150 having been as low as 94 at the end of April preceding and not above 116 at any time last year. The rise in Tinnevellies during approximately the same period has been equally marked. During January 1935, again, a sensational rise took place in the price of coconut oil on the West Coast; it rose from Rs. 66-8-0 on January 5th to Rs. 92-8-0 on January 26th. This appears to have been to some extent a speculative rise in anticipation of a protective duty, but expectations of a short crop seem to have contributed. The price subsequently declined to Rs. 75; on 2nd February it stood at Rs. 80 per candy but has since declined to Rs. 73. The market has been clearly unsettled, but the present ruling price is considerably higher than anything recorded in the past twelve months. Copra has moved in sympathy. Between the 20th December and the 10th January the price of groundnut rose sharply from Rs. 29-12-0 to Rs. 36 and on the 24th January the quotation was Rs. 40-8-0. Here again anticipation of short crop is probably the cause. The recent disturbance in the Bombay and London markets does not appear to have affected Madras. Other indications of approaching improvement are not wanting; in Great Britain trade and business have markedly improved, and the same phenomenon, though less marked, seems to be perceptible in this country. On the whole, therefore, it would appear that the worst of the depression is over, and that we are on the upward grade. But, there are as yet few signs that the idea of national self-sufficiency in an economic sense is losing its hold on the minds of men, and until it does so it appears unlikely that we shall see any widespread modification of the obstacles to international trade, such as tariffs, quotas and the like, which in recent years have done so much to intensify trade stagnation. At any rate, it would certainly be rash to act on any such anticipation in attempting to budget for the next twelve months. To add to our troubles, the rains in this Presidency both during the south-west and the north-east monsoons, have been light (except in the north of the Presidency),

unevenly distributed and in a considerable number of districts quite inadequate. The Ceded Districts—i.e., Anantapur, Bellary and parts of Cuddapah and Kurnool—have been specially affected; the situation is being met by the measures usual in such cases. In Bellary and Anantapur test works, in most cases converted to regular famine works, have been opened, and other measures of relief have been, or will be, resorted to as occasion requires. In areas in which 'famine' conditions are not present, relief is being afforded to the cultivator by suspension or remission of kists and takavi loans instalments. Kist suspension or remission has been sanctioned on a liberal scale in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Chittoor, Nellore, North Arcot, Ramnad and Coimbatore. It is anticipated that the cost to our revenues in 1934–35 will be about Rs. 14¾ lakhs and in 1935–36 about Rs. 3½ lakhs in addition to the normal remissions and the special land revenue concessions. The greater part of the sums concerned falls on the Revised Estimate for the current year, and to this circumstance is almost wholly due the fact that we anticipate for the first time for five years a substantial revenue deficit.

"3. Bearing all these circumstances in mind, it is obvious that we shall not be justified in framing our calculations for 1935–36 on any expectations of increased affluence, and I believe that the estimates now presented will show that we have not done so. On the other hand, we have striven not to commit the sin of unduly underestimating our resources. My own fear is that our estimates will in the event prove to have been framed, if at all, on too sanguine a basis.

"4. With these preliminary observations, I turn to the Account figures of 1933–34.

Accounts for the year 1933-1934.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

"5. Taking first the actual figures of the REVENUE ACCOUNT for 1933–34 and comparing them with the Revised Estimate for that year, it will be found that the actual REVENUE fell short of the Revised Estimate by Rs. 25·21 lakhs, the figures being Rs. 1,603·06 lakhs as against Rs. 1,628·27 lakhs. On the other hand Expenditure was less than that anticipated by Rs. 30·85 lakhs and the year 1933–34 closed with a small REVENUE SURPLUS of Rs. 6·25 lakhs as compared with an anticipated surplus of Rs. 0·61 lakh. The shortage in the REVENUE (25·21) occurred mainly under LAND REVENUE and EXCISE, the fall in both cases being due to much the same causes, viz., the occurrence of floods, cyclone or unfavourable season which adversely affected the revenue; it will be recalled that South Arcot and Tanjore suffered particularly severely from cyclone in this year, and special concessions were granted by the Government in that connexion.

"6. To the interruption of work caused by cyclone and flood is also largely due the fact that a decrease of Rs. 5·62 lakhs occurs under the Revenue head XXX. CIVIL WORKS to which transfers are made from

the Central Road Development Account as the works for which the money is given proceed. There is of course a corresponding decrease of expenditure charged to revenue under the expenditure head 41. CIVIL WORKS which discloses a short expenditure of Rs. 20·25 lakhs during the year.

CAPITAL AND DEBT HEADS

" 7. In 1933–34 the figures relating to Capital and Debt call, I think, for no special remarks.

'*Cauvery-Mettur Project.—The total disbursements were Rs. 26·21* lakhs against Rs. 25·68 lakhs anticipated in the Revised Estimate for 1933–34. A sum of Rs. 7·90 lakhs was met from the unspent balance of the loan taken in 1932–33 and the remainder of Rs. 18·31 lakhs was met from the Revenue balances.

'*Pykara, Kattalai and Cochin Harbour works.*—The total disbursements were Rs. 29·40 lakhs against Rs. 30·95 lakhs anticipated in the Revised Estimate for 1933–34. The short disbursement of Rs. 1·55 lakhs occurs partly under the Pykara scheme (·97) and partly under the Kattalai scheme (·58). No loan was disbursed for Cochin Harbour works out of the undisbursed balance amounting to Rs. 8·37 lakhs of the loan taken on the 15th February 1933. But as the works were held up owing to the delay on the part of the Government of India in conveying sanction, the Government of India agreed at our request to permit the repayment of the undisbursed amount and to accept repayment as from the 1st April 1933. The effect of this was that the Madras Government were relieved of an annual equated payment of Rs. 83,400 for a period of 15 years or a total payment inclusive of interest of Rs. 12·51 lakhs against the loan of Rs. 8·37 lakhs, that is to say, a saving of Rs. 4·14 lakhs representing interest.

" The total disbursements under Pykara, Kattalai and Cochin Harbour works including this repayment were Rs. 37·77 lakhs, of which Rs. 17·09 lakhs were met from the opening balance and Rs. 11·87 lakhs from the recoveries under the Provincial Loan Account; the balance of Rs. 8·81 lakhs was found from the Revenue balances.

CLOSING BALANCE FOR THE YEAR 1933–1934.

" 8. The actual Closing Balance of the REVENUE ACCOUNT for 1933–34, which will appear as the Opening Balance for 1934–35, works out to Rs. 284·60 lakhs.

Revised Estimate for the year 1934-1935.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

" 9. I now come to the Revised Estimate for the year just closing, 1934–1935. In the Budget Estimate for this year we counted on a REVENUE of Rs. 1,643·63 lakhs; we have only been able in the Revised Estimate to adopt a figure of Rs. 1,602·57 lakhs; the difference (41·06) represents the anticipated shrinkage in our resources. On the

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EXPENDITURE side the Revised Estimate anticipates a decrease of Rs. 17·56 lakhs only, and the result is that the small surplus of Rs. 4·46 lakhs which we hoped to secure when preparing the Budget Estimates is now converted into an expected deficit of Rs. 19·04 lakhs. The anticipated fall of Rs. 41·66 lakhs in revenue is the net result of a series of marked falls under all the more important revenue heads, partly set off by slight improvements under other and less important heads. Among these latter the most encouraging is XXXA. HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEMES under which additional revenue from the sale of power is anticipated amounting to Rs. 3·52 lakhs; under head XXVI. MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS increased receipts of rupees one lakh under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act is worth noting. These small improvements, however, go but a little way to counter-balance the decline apparent under the more important heads, which are (taking net figures in each case) Rs. 26·12 lakhs under V. LAND REVENUE Rs. 8·61 lakhs under VI. EXCISE and Rs. 12·44 lakhs under VII. STAMPS. The fall of Rs. 26·12 lakhs under V. LAND REVENUE is mainly to be ascribed to the failure, partial or complete, of the monsoon rains in many districts. As I have just observed, it has been necessary on this account to sanction freely remissions or suspensions of kist both wet and dry, and, as a further consequence, it has been necessary to assume a lower percentage of collection to demand. We have yet to receive the final recommendations of the Board of Revenue as to the full extent of the seasonal concessions that may be necessary, and it may well prove that we have allowed too little on this account; should this be so, the anticipated deficit will be increased. A further factor which has contributed about Rs. 2¼ lakhs to the decrease in LAND REVENUE is the adjustment in April 1934 instead of in March, of a portion of the concessions granted for last fasli on account of the economic depression. As regards the fall under EXCISE and STAMPS, the same general causes, viz., the slow economic recovery coupled with the seasonal difficulties to which I have alluded no doubt account for the decline. It has affected nearly every head of the Excise revenue and has been accompanied by a most alarming increase in the volume of grave Excise crime, e.g., illicit distillation and kindred offences, which clearly shows that the high price of licit liquor resulting from successive enhancements of taxation has passed the point at which those who use liquor prefer, rather than pay it, to have recourse to illicit practices at the risk of punishment if detected. It has been necessary materially to strengthen the abkari preventive staff, and to sanction, for the arrack lease commencing in April 1935, a reduction of 25 per cent in the still-head duty.

"10. The EXPENDITURE figures of the Revised Estimate for 1934–1935 call for no special remarks. The Revised Estimates show an expected 'saving' of Rs. 17·56 lakhs later which is only about 1 per cent of the total estimated expenditure. It is satisfactory to note that under the expenditure head 41. CIVIL WORKS the anticipated lapse is Rs. 11·32 lakhs only, as compared with a lapse of Rs. 20¼ lakhs in the preceding year. I hope that this may be taken as indicating that our efforts to check 'over-budgeting' of expenditure have had some effect.

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CAPITAL AND DEBT HEADS.

"11. Coming to the CAPITAL AND DEBT HEADS, it will be observed that whereas the Budget Estimate contemplated an expenditure of Rs. 118·16 lakhs on Irrigation (other than the Cauvery-Mettur scheme), on Hydro-Electric works, Industrial Development and Provincial Loans and Advances, the Revised Estimate anticipates an expenditure of Rs. 80·68 lakhs only, a reduction of Rs. 37·48 lakhs. This short expenditure has mainly occurred under Hydro-Electric schemes and principally results from the withdrawal of the scheme for supplying power to Cochin, due to the reluctance of the Darbar to accept the terms offered; to short outlay on the scheme for supplying power to Trichinopoly mainly by reason of saving in the estimated cost and to short expenditure on various minor schemes for the supply of power to various municipal towns. There was also shortfall of the expenditure expected on account of loans and advances by the Provincial Government. The Central Land Mortgage Bank did not find it necessary to take from the Government the advance of rupees one lakh; for the reasons already indicated, we were unable to utilize nearly Rs. 8¾ lakhs out of the loan of Rs. 10 lakhs which had been provided for the Cochin Harbour; the demand for advances from cultivators was less by Rs. 2·10 lakhs than had been expected, and lapses amounting to Rs. 9·50 lakhs in the provision for loans to the Madras Corporation are anticipated, mainly owing to the existence in the hands of that body of large unspent balances of loans already made to it. For these reasons it is expected that the amount to be found to finance the Capital outlay contemplated in the Revised Estimate will be reduced by Rs. 38·15 lakhs and we shall require to draw on our Provincial balances for Rs. 50·80 lakhs only, instead of Rs. 88·95 lakhs as provided in the Budget Estimate. It may be noted that the Revised Estimate makes no provision for expenditure during the current year on the Mettur Hydro-Electric scheme, for which estimates amounting to about Rs. 180 lakhs have just been sanctioned by the Secretary of State too late for inclusion in these estimates. A further demand for the sum likely to be needed in the first year will be presented in due course.

CLOSING BALANCE FOR THE YEAR 1934–1935.

"12. *After providing for the adjustment of the* REVENUE ACCOUNT DEFICIT (19·04) and the withdrawal from the Revenue balances of the sum (50·80) required for the Cuavery-Mettur Project and other Capital expenditure, it is expected that the year 1934–1935 will close with a revenue balance of Rs. 214·76 lakhs.

Budget Estimate for the year 1935-36.

REVENUE ACCOUNT—PART I.

"13. We now come to the Budget Estimate for 1935–1936. It has been prepared on the assumption, for budget purposes only, that the concessions on account of the general economic depression given in the year 1934–1935 will be repeated in its successor. Upon this basis we

anticipate, taking Part I of the budget only, a REVENUE of Rs. 1,648·80 lakhs and an EXPENDITURE of Rs. 1,611·04 lakhs, representing as compared with the Revised Estimate for 1934–1935 a betterment in Revenue of Rs. 46·23 lakhs and a saving in Expenditure of Rs. 10·57 lakhs. Under LAND REVENUE receipts we have allowed for an improvement, as compared with the Revised Estimate for 1934–1935, of Rs. 37·90 lakhs; this is partly due to the expectation that the monsoons next year will be normal, partly to the slight diminution which has been made in the special land revenue concessions on account of the depression and partly to the expectation that the postponed kists in certain districts affected by the failure of the current year's rains will be collected in the next year; it is expected also that we shall receive some additional revenue (about Rs. 4½ lakhs in all) from the Cauvery-Mettur Project, and the resettlements in certain districts or parts of districts. Under all the other heads of revenue we have not felt justified in taking credit for any material increase, with the exception of XXXA. HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEMES, and XXXII. FAMINE. Under XXXA we count on an increase of Rs. 3·76 lakhs which is justified by the highly satisfactory development of our Hydro-Electric enterprises; under XXXII. FAMINE we relieve the Revenue Account by financing from the Famine Relief Fund balances the expenditure on works undertaken for the relief of famine and the Tippayapalam project, a protective work in progress in the Kurnool district. Under XVI. INTEREST, it will be noticed that a fall of Rs. 2·16 lakhs is anticipated owing to the fact that we shall not be able next year to deposit at interest with the Government of India so large an amount of the Provincial balances. It will be observed that the principal heads of Revenue excluding Land Revenue, namely, EXCISE, STAMPS, FOREST and REGISTRATION, remain practically stationary and it is even likely that there will be a fall under EXCISE as the loss due to the 25 per cent reduction of duty on arrack may not be made up by increased consumption or higher rentals for arrack shops. Under LAND REVENUE, for instance, it is doubtful whether the kists of the current fasli in Chittoor, Anantapur and Bellary districts postponed to April 1935, amounting to about Rs. 5 lakhs, for which the budget for next year takes credit, will be realized. It is safer, therefore, to assume that the increase shown under V. LAND REVENUE will be about Rs. 5 lakhs less. The only head which shows a healthy growth is XXXA. HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEMES.

EXPENDITURE CHARGED TO REVENUE IN 1935–1936—PART I.

" 14. The figures of EXPENDITURE (Part I) charged to Revenue for 1935–1936 may now be touched on. The decrease, as compared with the Revised Estimate for the current year, is Rs. 10·57 lakhs, partly due to the fact that the salary cut of five per cent in the pay of officers under the rule-making powers of the Secretary of State is to be removed; the effect is an increase in expenditure in this province of Rs. 3·52 lakhs a year; this has contributed to increase of expenditure disclosed under the various service heads—8. FOREST, 24. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE,

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26. POLICE, and 22. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION. Under the last head, however, the net increase of Rs. 3·73 lakhs is chiefly due to the provision of about rupees six lakhs on account of the elections to the Provincial Legislature which it has been necessary to include owing to the imminence of the Reforms. Turning to the heads which show decreased expenditure, that under 15. IRRIGATION (— 3·09) is due to the fact that a reduced special provision, as compared with the current year, has been made for the repair of flood damages; under 31. EDUCATION, the reduction is due partly to the fact that the special provision made in 1934–1935 for paying off arrears of teaching grants to the District Educational Councils of South Arcot and Tanjore need not be repeated, while under this head as also under 33. PUBLIC HEALTH, 37. MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS and 41. CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID, the provision for various grants and new schemes has been made in the Part II estimates. Under 41. CIVIL WORKS—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, the saving to the Revenue Account of Rs. 8·12 lakhs is mostly due to our decision to debit expenditure on certain large schemes of medical buildings directly to CAPITAL.

PART II SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR 1935–1936 CHARGEABLE TO REVENUES.

" 15. Coming now to PART II SCHEMES for 1935–1936, the demands of the various departments were, as usual, submitted to the scrutiny of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee decided to recommend acceptance, as urgently necessary (CLASS II), schemes involving a net cost (i.e., after allowing for some slight resulting additional revenue) of Rs. 33·71 lakhs (Rs. 30·47 lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 3·24 lakhs recurring) in 1935–1936 and an ultimate net commitment of Rs. 67·91 lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 4·97 lakhs recurring expenditure. The corresponding gross figures are, for 1935–1936, Rs. 34·03 lakhs of which Rs. 30·54 lakhs is non-recurring and Rs. 3·49 lakhs recurring.

" The Government have decided to make provision for all these schemes. In addition they have been able to find funds for a few other schemes which were placed in CLASS III by the Finance Committee (i.e., schemes which should be taken up as soon as funds are available). The cost of these in 1935–1936 will be Rs. 58,100; the total net cost therefore of Part II Schemes for 1935–1936 after taking into account the additional revenue of Rs. ·29 lakh works out to (Rs. 33·71 lakhs *plus* Rs. ·58 lakh) Rs. 34·29 lakhs against Rs. 39·14 lakhs available.

" The gross demand of Rs. 34·58 lakhs is distributed as follows between 'Reserved' and 'Transferred':—

	LAKHS.
Reserved (inclusive of buildings for Reserved departments)	8·65 (25 per cent).
Transferred	25·93 (75 per cent).

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REVENUE SURPLUS IN 1935–1936.

" 16. This, if the anticipations as to revenue are fulfilled, will leave, as a final small SURPLUS, Rs. 4·85 lakhs. It is desirable to retain this small sum in the hands of the Government against unforeseen expenditure, and in this connexion it is to be recalled that, if the postponed land revenue in some districts fails to be realized, the small surplus anticipated, even if no other unforeseen expenditure has to be met, will be converted into a DEFICIT.

CAPITAL AND DEBT HEADS, 1935–1936—PARTS I AND II.

" 17. The estimates for the CAPITAL AND DEBT heads (Parts I and II) for 1935–1936 remain to be considered. In all, a sum of Rs. 88 lakhs is required for existing (Part I) commitments. Of this Rs. 4·94 lakhs relates to the Cauvery-Mettur Project; the construction of the dam has been completed and the small demand is intended for works connected with the canals and distributory channels.

" 18. Besides the requirements of the Cauvery-Mettur Project, there is a demand of Rs. 83·06 lakhs as follows :—

	LAKHS.
(1) 55. Construction of Irrigation, etc., works (other than the Cauvery-Mettur Project)	13·29
(2) 56 C. Capital Outlay on Industrial Development	·21
(3) 58. Capital Outlay on Hydro-Electric schemes.	34·98
(4) 60. Civil Works—Not charged to Revenue ..	6·49
(5) Loans and Advances by the Provincial Government	28·09
Total ..	83·06

" The demand under the head 55. IRRIGATION WORKS, other than the Cauvery-Mettur Project, is Rs. 13·29 lakhs. The works in question are situated in the delta systems of the Godavari, the Kistna and the Cauvery; and, apart from these, provision is made for the further carrying to completion of the 'Kattalai' scheme proper, the Kattalai North Bank scheme—both in the Trichinopoly district, and improvements to the Vriddhachalam Anicut system (South Arcot). The most important single items in the deltas are the Kistna East Bank canal scheme (total cost Rs. 28·49 lakhs) for which Rs. 8·50 lakhs is required and the improvements to the Peddalanka channel (total cost Rs. 4·29 lakhs) for which a provision of Rs. 1·28 lakhs is proposed.

" There is a proposal to which I shall refer later to take up the work of clearance of silt and special repairs to minor irrigation works on an extensive scale and to meet the expenditure from Capital. A programme is being drawn up, but no provision has been included for it in the Budget Estimate for 1935–1936, either in Part I or in Part II estimates. A sum of Rs. 5 lakhs may be required in the course of next year.

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" Under the head 58. CAPITAL OUTLAY ON HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEMES, the demand is Rs. 34·98 lakhs. This includes expenditure required for the construction of a dam on the Mukurti river for which the Council has voted a supplementary grant in January last; for extending the supply of electric power to Trichinopoly, to the towns of Theni, Periyakulam and Bodinayakkanur in the Madura district and to Negapatam and Tanjore; for completing certain distributive works commenced in the current year in the Coimbatore district, and for certain improvements to the present distribution system of the Pykara scheme itself.

" The proposals as regards LOANS AND ADVANCES call for no special remark.

" The total estimate of disbursements, in excess of receipts, under Capital and Debt heads (Part I), excluding Mettur Hydro-Electric and other schemes specifically referred to above as not being sufficiently advanced for provision in the budget is Rs. 54·56 lakhs. This amount it is proposed to finance from the Provincial balances.

" 19. As regards new schemes of CAPITAL expenditure, the Finance Committee considered twelve, involving a demand of Rs. 5 lakhs recurring and Rs. 17·22 lakhs non-recurring in 1935–1936. As the result of the Government's consideration of their proposals, it has been decided to admit and provide for schemes involving an expenditure of Rs. 22·55 lakhs (including a deduction on account of anticipated savings, as well as charges for establishment, tools and plant). The total amount to be drawn from the Revenue balances to meet Capital expenditure will thus be, Part I estimates Rs. 54·56 lakhs, Part II estimates Rs. 22·55 lakhs—total Rs. 77·11 lakhs.

" The Government propose to take no loans from the Government of India in 1935–1936.

REVENUE CLOSING BALANCE AT THE END OF 1935–1936.

" 20. The Closing Balance of the REVENUE ACCOUNT for 1935–1936 works out as follows :—

		LAKHS.
Anticipated Opening Balance in 1935–1936 ..		214·76
Add—Anticipated surplus excluding Part II Schemes chargeable to Revenues		39·14
Total ..		253·90
Deduct—		
(i) Provision for Part II Schemes chargeable to Revenues—	LAKHS.	
Class II schemes (net)	33·71	
Class III schemes (provided for)	·58	
		34·29

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(ii) Amount to be utilized for Capital expenditure—		
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Part I	54·56	
Part II	22·55	
		77·11
Revenue Closing Balance in 1935–1936 ..		142·50

FURTHER DEMANDS AGAINST THE REVENUE CLOSING BALANCE.

"21. I have referred already to the Mettur Hydro-Electric scheme as one for which it will be necessary to provide funds for the initial stage. I have also mentioned a proposal to take up the work of repairing and improving tanks, channels, etc., on a more extensive scale, to be financed from the balances or from loans. This proposal is one result of the Economic Conference held last April in Delhi, at which— it will be remembered—the general position was accepted that the time is opportune for a more forward policy in the matter of Capital expenditure in all directions taking advantage of the prevailing cheapness of money. At the Conference the main recommendation adopted to give practical effect to this policy had reference to a proposal to utilize the contributions which each Government receives from the proceeds of the tax on petrol, not only as heretofore directly for the improvement or construction of roads or bridges, but also to pay for the service of loans to be raised and devoted to these objects ; Local Governments were invited to forumlate actual programmes of such expenditure. This Government has for the past six months employed an experienced Public Works Department officer to work out such a programme, but his report cannot be received in time to enable it to be considered with reference to the present Budget. Apart however from the question of roads, it has appeared to the Government that Capital expenditure might for the same reason be advantageously applied to a more extensive programme of irrigation tank and channel improvement, reconstruction or repair, especially having regard to the very large numbers of these which exist in this Presidency. The cost for upkeep of these is no doubt appreciable but probably implies a less heavy recurring charge than the maintenance of roads, while their execution would enable employment to be afforded over a larger area than would be possible with a mere road programme, and the work would be, indirectly at least, highly beneficial and remunerative. The scheme, however, like the road programme, has still to be worked out and the sanction of the Government of India to its inception as a Capital scheme will be necessary.

"22. Lastly, there is the proposal to introduce a scheme of Broadcasting. It will be remembered that the investigation of this question received the general approbation of this House in November 1933 when

it accorded sanction to our employing a broadcasting expert to advise us and to formulate specific proposals. This has been done and, in pursuance of the advice given us, we have formulated in outline and submitted to the Government of India a scheme which can be taken up in stages, and is calculated in the course of three or four years from its inception to provide the Presidency with a reasonably complete and efficient Broadcasting system. As the House is aware, Broadcasting is a 'Central' subject, and it is consequently not open to us to proceed independently with the proposals. In these circumstances, it would be premature now to include provision for the scheme in the present Budget. Should the Government at a later stage find it possible to proceed and to finance the enterprise, I feel sure the House, to whom of course the proposals must be referred, will not refuse the necessary funds.

"23. There are still two matters to which it is perhaps desirable that I should refer before attempting a review of our financial policy during the past five years, and of our present position; one, the action of the Government in respect of the Central Land Mortage Bank and the other, the question of the Land Revenue concessions which have been repeated for the fasli ending the 30th June 1935 (fasli 1344) upon a slightly reduced scale as compared with those given for fasli 1343.

CENTRAL LAND MORTGAGE BANK.

"24. As regards the Central Land Mortgage Bank, the Government, in pursuance of the provisions of section 6 of the Act passed by this House in March last, have guaranteed the debentures of the Central Land Mortgage Bank both as to principal and interest subject to an upward limit, as to total amount, of Rs. 50 lakhs at any one time, and as to interest to an upward limit of 5 per cent per annum and, in consideration of this guarantee of the Provincial Government, these securities are entitled to rank as trustee securities within the meaning of the Indian Trusts Act as recently amended by the Central Legislature. This is a very important step, as I hope, in the direction of affording aid to the ryot in facing his many difficulties, for it enables the Bank to provide with greater ease the long-term money which is so essential and which the ordinary co-operative credit bank cannot furnish. At the same time, it must not be forgotten that by giving this guarantee the Government have assumed a not inconsiderable ultimate liability, should the Bank be mismanaged and fail to meet its liabilities at any time. The Government therefore have rightly, as I think, required such changes to be made in the Bank's by-laws and constitution as will ensure to them, as ultimate guarantors, a sufficient degree of control over the policy and management of the institution. I do not myself believe that the risk is a serious one, but, such as it is, I believe the Government is fully justified in taking it, having regard to the valuable contribution which such an institution, if properly managed, can make towards solving the great problem of agricultural indebtedness.

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LAND REVENUE CONCESSIONS.

"25. As regards the question of special Land Revenue concessions and the recent Resolution of this House recommending a surrender of revenue by the Government of Rs. 371 lakhs, I do not think I need expatiate at great length in view of the recent communique' published. It suffices to observe that it is quite impossible for the Government to accept a proposal which would have meant crippling its finances and practically disorganizing its entire machinery, besides depriving the numerous and important interests which have hitherto looked to the Government for assistance of a great part if not the whole of the aid they have been receiving. In form, no doubt, the Resolution had reference only to a single fasli, but, if any one supposes that as a matter of practical administration or practical politics it would be possible to restore such a surrender in full by a stroke of the pen in twelve months' time, he must be a very simple-minded person. The clamour which has been raised in the past few weeks over this question should be sufficient to undeceive him.

"In this connexion, Hon'ble Members may be interested to know to what extent, since these concessions began, the revenues of the Government have suffered. To illustrate this I append the following table :—

Fasli Years..	Total.	1932–1933.	1933–1934.	1934–1935.	1935–1936.	1936–1937.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
1342 ..	33·38	10·71	22·67	..	..	..
1343 ..	61·62	..	41·51	20·11	..	..
1344 ..	55·51	..	..	48·06	7·45	..
1345 ..	54·69	..	..	..	45·86	8·83
Total loss for faslis 1342–1345	**205·20**	**10·71**	**64·18**	**68·17**	**53·31**	**8·83**

"Assuming that the concessions are given for fasli 1345 on the same basis as in fasli 1344, the cost of the concessions for the four faslis (1342 to 1345, both inclusive) works out to Rs. 205·20 lakhs, well over two crores of rupees.

SURVEY OF FINANCIAL HISTORY AND POLICY SINCE 1930–1931.

"26. Presenting as I do, the Provincial budget for the last time before I lay down my office, I trust the House will bear with me while I survey as briefly as possible the course of our financial history and policy during the past five years. For the year 1930–1931, the budget was prepared by my predecessor, Sir Thomas Moir; it came at the end of a period of affluence and my predecessor was able to point to progress in almost every direction (in so far as progress is synonymous with increased expenditure) and to Provincial balances which amounted

at the opening of the year to about Rs. 4½ crores. The year 1930-1931 closed with a deficit of Rs. 105¾ lakhs against a deficit of Rs. 16·61 lakhs estimated by Sir Thomas Moir, and of Rs. 56·39 lakhs anticipated in the Revised Estimate for that year. For 1931-1932 at the time of presenting the Budget, we hoped for a small deficit of Rs. 9·45 lakhs; this proved to be too sanguine and the Revised Estimate for the year contemplated a deficit of Rs. 50·74 lakhs; the actuals however showed, mainly as the result of our effort at retrenchment and of a tendency of the Excise and *Stamp revenue to recover, a small surplus of Rs. 5·41 lakhs. During* 1932-1933 Excise revenue made a remarkable further recovery and in the Revised Estimate we hoped for a surplus of Rs. 62·77 lakhs; in the actuals this was bettered, the realized surplus being Rs. 77·21 lakhs. In the next year 1933-1934, the figures were, Budget Estimate + Rs. 4·08 lakhs, Revised Estimate + Rs. ·61 lakh, and Actuals + Rs. 6·25 lakhs. For 1934-1935, the 'actuals' are not yet available but the Budget Estimate contemplated a small surplus (Rs. 4·46 lakhs) and the Revised Estimate anticipates, for the first time since 1930-1931, a deficit of Rs. 19·04 lakhs. Since 1932-1933, the revenue has been reduced on account of the special 'economic depression' remissions by sums amounting to Rs. 10·71 lakhs, Rs. 64·18 lakhs, Rs. 68·17 lakhs and Rs. 53·31 lakhs in each of the years 1932-1933 to 1935-1936 (both inclusive). During the same period provision has been made for Part II Schemes as follows:—

	LAKHS.
1932-1933	8·76
1933-1934	43·98
1934-1935	25·76
1935-1936	34·58

"In *other words, we have been able, in addition to the special land* revenue remissions, to allocate about Rs. 28 lakhs yearly for new schemes of expenditure. No additional taxation has been imposed, apart from the resettlements which have taken place in certain districts and which will ultimately add to our revenue about Rs. 20 lakhs a year. Of the retrenchments enforced in and after 1931-1932, we have been able to restore various items which in 1935-1936 involve an additional expenditure of about Rs. 20½ lakhs; of this Rs. 4·95 lakhs (or 24 per cent) relates to the 'Reserved' and Rs. 15·56 lakhs (or 76 per cent) to the 'Transferred' departments.

"27. The above analysis of the budgets since 1931 indicates, I think, that after one or two violent oscillations we have been able to steady the pendulum and to achieve at least from the end of 1932-1933 what may perhaps be regarded as reasonable equilibrium between revenue and expenditure charged to revenue. This has been from the early stages of the depression our accepted policy. In my speech introducing the Budget for 1931-1932, I emphasized this, remarking that 'to adjust more closely revenue receipts and revenue expenditure should . . . be the main object of our policy, balances or no balances.' It has been possible to achieve this by a strong control over expenditure, by closer

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budgeting and by striving to eliminate wasteful spending. The deficit in the Revised Estimate for the current year is to be ascribed to the temporary strain caused by the failure of the rains. As against famine expenditure proper, our famine fund is well-stocked, sufficient I believe for any demand for relief measures that is likely to arise. Our debt position is a strong one ; my predecessor utilized a part of the Provincial balances to reduce outstanding debt, and was able in 1929–1930 and 1930–1931 to repay Rs. 279·76 lakhs of debt ; on the 1st April 1931, our debt amounted to Rs. 1,552·29 lakhs, of which Rs. 1,501·45 lakhs was 'productive' and Rs. 50·84 lakhs 'unproductive' ; these involved respectively annual interest payments of Rs. 65·05 and 3·03 lakhs. On the 1st April 1936, our debt will stand at Rs. 1,602·84 lakhs, of which Rs. 1,582·11 lakhs is 'productive' debt with an interest charge of Rs. 67·66 lakhs, and Rs. 20·73 lakhs is 'unproductive' debt, involving an annual interest charge of Rs. 1·40 lakhs. This represents an increase of debt of about Rs. 50 lakhs only in the quinquennium. The Government of India having declined to accept premature repayment of their loans either from open market borrowings or from our balances, we decided to continue the policy, which had been begun in 1928–1929, of applying those balances as far as might be necessary in financing important capital works ; if unable to use the money for paying off debt, the next best thing was to employ it in the avoidance of debt. Since the end of 1932–1933, we have ceased to borrow and from 1928–1929 up to the end of 1935–1936 we shall have advanced from our balances about Rs. 249 lakhs for remunerative capital expenditure. It will be open to us at any future time to fund the whole or part of this money by borrowing to recoup our balances, if we should find it advantageous. On the other hand, should we prefer to finance future capital expenditure from new loans, it is open to us to do so, and our position as borrowers will be all the stronger from having created in the meantime, with a comparatively small recourse to borrowed funds, a number of highly valuable assets. Among these may be mentioned the greater part of the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme and its distributaries ; the Cauvery-Mettur Project in its later stages ; the Kattalai scheme, almost wholly, and various other important irrigation schemes with the details of which I need not trouble the House.

" 28. The weakness of our position consists in the absence of elasticity in our revenues, in the fact that they show—speaking broadly—no appreciable tendency to recover, and that for about three-fourths of our revenues we depend on two sources only, Land Revenue and Excise. The last mentioned point is one to which attention has been repeatedly drawn both by my predecessors and myself ; I feel, personally, that the question of discovering some fresh source of revenue cannot now be long deferred, with the object of placing our finances on a broader basis. As to the present tendency of our revenues to stand still or even to recede, I do not think it necessary to take a wholly gloomy view. But I feel sure that the recovery, as I have more than once observed in addressing this House, must be slow ; we are not to expect a phenomenal rise in prices comparable to the catastrophic fall which took place in the past

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three years. This means that for a good many years to come we shall have to be content (unless new sources of revenue are tapped) with such limited advance from year to year as our slowly expanding revenues will permit; and such a position, I fear, will prove a trying one to the popular patience; for I am far from regarding a yearly allotment of Rs. 28 lakhs or so as being at all commensurate with the needs and requirements of this Presidency. Had it not been for the necessity we have been under of granting special land revenue concessions, it will be seen from the figures I have quoted that we should have been able to allot yearly something like Rs. 50 or 60 lakhs more to satisfy in greater measure the numerous and urgent calls upon us.

"29. Such then is our position and such our policy during the past five years. It has been governed throughout by one other ruling consideration of which I have not yet spoken, though on previous occasions I have emphasized it—the necessity of so ordering our finances as to ensure to those on whom under the new constitution will fall the direction of affairs, a reasonably favourable start. Nothing would have been easier than to have adopted a spendthrift policy; nothing more likely than such a policy to gain a passing popularity, or to win the unthinking applause of those who do not look beyond the convenience of the moment; but also nothing could be more disastrous than such a policy or more detrimental to the fair prospects of the great constitutional experiment so shortly to be inaugurated.

Conclusion.

"30. With these observations, Sir, I commend the estimates to the acceptance of the House. Before I conclude, however, I desire to convey, on behalf of the Government and myself, our cordial acknowledgments for the valuable work of the Finance and Public Accounts Committees during the past year. I do this, Sir, not as a matter of form, but as a genuine expression of our sense of obligation. The Finance Committee's handling of the questions submitted to them has been most helpful. We may call them the watch-dogs of current financial activities, mainly of course expenditure, while the Public Accounts Committee sits in judgment on what has been done already. It would, however, be a mistake to suppose that its scrutiny and advice are any the less useful or necessary on that account; its views and its rulings have afforded us most valuable guidance, and will, I doubt not, continue to command the greatest respect in the future as heretofore.

"In conclusion, Sir, I would ask your permission, and that of the House, to express their appreciation as well as my own of the work of the officers and staff of the Finance Department during the past year. In doing so, I pay no merely formal compliment; for no one knows better than myself with what loyalty and ability they have worked and to what a strain they have been subjected not in the past year only but throughout the difficult years of depression through which we have passed." (Applause.)

V.—ANNOUNCEMENT *RE* TIME-LIMIT FOR SPEECHES ON THE BUDGET.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The general discussion on the budget will commence on the 22nd February 1935. During the discussion, I propose to prescribe a time-limit of 20 minutes for the speech of the leader of a party and 10 minutes for the speech of any other Member. I would suggest that the reading of manuscript speeches should be exceptional. In regard to such speeches I propose to prescribe a time-limit of 6 minutes. The afternoon of Monday, the 25th February 1935, will be at the disposal of the Hon. Members of Government to make their replies."

VI.—EXCESS DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1932–33.

* The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the following Excess Demands for Grants, 1932–33 :—

(*a*) *That an additional sum not exceeding Rs.* 4,685 *be granted under 'Grant III. Stamps—Reserved' to make good the excess expenditure incurred in the year* 1932–33.

(*b*) *That an additional sum not exceeding Rs.* 14,670 *be granted under "Grant XXXIII. Pensions—Reserved" to make good the excess expenditure incurred in the year* 1932–33.

(*c*) *That an additional sum not exceeding Rs.* 41,957 *be granted under 'Grant XXXVIII. Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred' to make good the excess expenditure incurred in the year* 1932–33.'

Sir, in respect of these Excess Grants, explanatory [a] memoranda have been placed already in the hands of Members and I do not think that I need go into the details of them at the outset. I may mention that the Public Accounts Committee has scrutinized all these demands for Excess Grants and has recommended that they should be regularized by the Legislative Council."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" I second it."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Sir, a sum of Rs. 14,670 has been asked for appropriation under Pensions and I take this opportunity to know whether this additional expenditure has been incurred on account of the consideration of the cases of ex-taluk board employees who are about to retire, or who are willing to invalidate themselves, if such a necessity arises. In this connexion I may mention that the cases of a large number of taluk board employees have not yet been settled and many of them are anxiously waiting to know what their lot will be. Some of them are likely to retire soon and some others are willing to retire by invalidating themselves. It has not been definitely settled what their rates of pension will be. Some clerks have been taken to the district board service as a permanent measure and some have been taken in acting vacancies with or without break in service and some are without employment at all."

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[a] Printed as Appendix XIV on pages 117–120 infra.

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* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I wish to know how the matter is relevant to this Excess Demand. The taluk boards were abolished last year and I do not know how the hon. Member can discuss this point when the Excess Demand relates to the year 1932–33."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Sorry, Sir, under item (b) there is an appropriation of a certain sum under Pensions and I thought that this point would be relevant to it."

* The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES :—" As regards the point taken by Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, you, Sir, have already pointed out that it is not really relevant. This is an Excess Grant required for the year 1932–33, long before the question of the retirement of taluk board employees arose. I gather that there are no other points to answer."

The Excess Demands were put and carried and the Grants were made.

VII.—REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE ON THE APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS FOR 1932–33.

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES :—" Sir, I now move—

> '*that the Report*[a] *of the Public Accounts Committee on the Appropriation Accounts of the Province and the Report of the Audit Officer thereon for the year* 1932–33 *be taken into consideration* '."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" I second it."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Mr. President, Sir, I must confess that I have not had enough time to go through this report of the Public Accounts Committee and the Appropriation Accounts for the year 1932–33. But due to the cursory glance I have had of the report, I shall confine myself only to a few of the items and shall try to be very brief. In the first place I shall refer to page 3 of the Accountant-General's report which relates to a change in the form of accounts which has been introduced in the year of report. It refers to the allowances paid to certain inamdars and grantees and pensions in lieu of resumed lands which were formerly debited to '5. Land Revenue—Assignments and Compensations.' It is stated that they are, with effect from 1932–33, classified under '47. Miscellaneous—Donations for charitable purposes' as the expenditure in question is within the scope of the latter head.

" I find, Sir, in the addendum that was circulated subsequently, the original note has been made elaborate. It is stated therein that certain allowances which were classified under the heads 'Inamdars and other grantees' and 'Pensions in lieu of resumed lands' subordinate to '5. Land Revenue—Assignments and Compensations' are, with effect from 1st April 1932, classified under 'Donations for charitable purposes' or 'Miscellaneous Compensations' under '47. Miscellaneous' as the allowances were granted not for the resumption of inams or resumed lands but for entirely different reasons such as the maintenance of choultries by the local boards, supply of drinking-water to travellers, service

[a] Printed separately.

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rendered in a durga or mosque. I would ask the hon. the Finance Member whether these are really the correct and the only reasons for making the change. I hear from one or two individuals who have been intimated of this change that inam lands were resumed from kazis, which were originally granted to them for some services to be rendered to the community; kazis' inams have been actually resumed in some cases and in lieu of that resumption, certain grants were paid to the kazis. From the note it is seen that resumptions are outside the scope of the change. Then there is no need to intimate to those kazis the change in the accounting. That change has caused a certain amount of alarm in the minds of those people who are being paid grants for resumed lands. I think, Sir, that the kazis are being paid these grants on account of their inam lands having been resumed, and further the land revenue assessment collected on the lands that have been resumed is being paid to them as a grant. If that is the case, I wish to point out that kazis are not performing any service to any durga or mosque; nor are they supplying drinking-water to travellers; nor do they maintain any choultries. Therefore this change does not affect them and the original systems must continue in their case. I would request the Government to examine this aspect, to find out what exactly are the items that are comprised in this change and what are the reasons that have led to this change, and to issue a communiqué to allay the alarm that has been caused by the re-classification of the accounts. Some people have come to me and asked me whether it means anything further than a mere change for accounting purposes. I had to assure them that it meant nothing apart from a mere change for the purpose of convenience of accounting. That did not satisfy them. It is up to the Government to make the position clear as soon as possible.

"I wish to draw the particular attention of the hon. the Finance Member and the House to page 7 of the Accountant-General's report; the remarks of the Accountant-General disclose defective budgeting.

"Paragraph (*n*) at page 7 of the report says :—

'Although the revenue and expenditure were estimated alike at Rs. 1,54,971, the year's working disclosed a revenue surplus of 77·21 as against 62·77 anticipated in the revised estimate, due chiedy to the betterment in the revenue position which first manifested itself in the accounts of March 1932. While making a comparison of the actual surplus with that estimated in the budget it has to be remembered that if the adjustments on account of the write back of the net capital outlay on the commercial concerns of the Forest department 4,09 and of the balances outstanding on 31st March 1932 on account of the commuted value of pensions 18,74 from Capital to Revenue had been taken into account while framing the budget, there would have been a revenue deficit of 22·83 in the budget and real increase in the actual surplus over that anticipated in the budget would have been nearly a crore of rupees, viz., 1,00,04. Although the effect of the above adjustments npon the finances of the Local Government as a whole was nil and these adjustments did not affect the net expenditure under the respective grant accounts Forest and Pensions owing to the inclusion of capital and revenue transactions under a single grant, they have none the less affected the Revenue Account of the year under review to the extent mentioned above.'

"I find, Sir, from its report, that the Public Accounts Committee has not taken notice of this aspect of the question, pointed out by the Accountant-General. I submit that this discloses certainly a defective

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and careless budgeting, if I may so call it. I would like to know—and I believe the House would also like to know—what steps are going to be taken to prevent a repetition of this in the future. I submit, Sir, it is necessary that the Government should bring such remarks of the Accountant-General to the special notice of the Public Accounts Committee and get its remarks recorded thereon.

"Now I go to the next point—the review of the financial position of the province during the year to which this report relates. The Accountant-General has reviewed the financial position at great length, and one would have expected the Public Accounts Committee to make its observations thereon. I searched in vain in the report for some indication as to whether the Committee considered the position satisfactory or unsatisfactory and for suggestions to the Government for making the position more satisfactory. I think the very purpose of a review of the financial position by the Accountant-General is to guide the Government and for the Government to take such instructions and guidance from the Public Accounts Committee as it is capable of giving on such questions. I suggest that in future, the Committee ought to be given an opportunity, if it had not been given in the past, to go through such questions; or at any rate, the Government ought to bring them to the notice of the Committee with a view to obtain any remarks, which the Committee may think it necessary to offer. As it is, this question has not even been touched by the Committee in its report. Apparently, it missed the attention of the Committee. While on this subject, I may say that the financial position as reviewed by the Accountant-General has no doubt been stated to be 'very satisfactory' as compared with previous years. That is due to the very close watch which the Hon. the Finance Member and his department have been keeping on the finances of the Government; but at the same time I consider there is still scope for improving upon the position as it obtains to-day. The possibilities of improvement should have been explored by the Public Accounts Committee, and perhaps it would have been done if the matter had been brought to its notice or if it had considered the position.

"Turning to paragraph 23 at page 49 of the Accountant-General's report, he elaborately discusses the position of the budget on the expenditure side and after giving details of savings on non-voted and voted appropriations, he makes these remarks:

'The percentage of saving in the non-voted section during 1932–33 is considerably higher than in the preceding four years including 1931–32 in which the percentage of saving for purpose of comparison is taken at ·16 after excluding one abnormal item of Rs. 22,37,926. The deterioration from the previous standard is accounted for partly by the large saving of Rs. 1,23,406 under Refunds of Revenue and partly by the fact that the total amount of excess over non-voted appropriations was considerably less than the corresponding figure for the preceding four years. The percentage of saving in the voted section during 1932–33 is the lowest on record during the last twelve years.'

"That is certainly very appreciable and calls for the approbation of the Council and the Committee in so far as that saving has been so much less; but still, as observed elsewhere by the Accountant-General,

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that is not really the normal standard. Though it is the lowest figure reached during the last twelve years, still it is above the normal standard which has been agreed to.

"Passing now to the question of overbudgeting, that still persists and I want to emphasize this point and draw the attention of the Finance Member especially to it. The Accountant-General says :

'The overbudgeting which still continues under certain grants mentioned in paragraph 27 and the fact that further measures of retrenchment were introduced in the course of the year 1932–33 after the budget was passed are responsible for the figure being a little higher than is desirable.'

"I submit, Sir, that the percentage of 3·46 in 'voted' grants, while it is no doubt commendatory, must still further be reduced. Efforts should be made to bring it to the standard figure. Again, Sir, the percentage of 1·01, savings under 'non-voted' grants must be considered very high. The remarks of the Accountant-General in that connexion are :

'Savings also occurred under 26 out of 40 heads in non-votable appropriations.'

"The more important of them are given at page 48 of his report. Turning to page 49 again, the percentage of savings in non-voted items has been shown as 1·01 whereas the Accountant-General has pointed out that the normal figure even for the purpose of comparison is ·16."

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES :—"Where is it pointed out ?"

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—"In the same paragraph ; the actual words are :

'the percentage of saving for purpose of comparison is taken at ·16 after excluding one abnormal item.'

"Comparing ·16 to 1·01, the percentage of saving must be considered very high under non-voted appropriations. These non-voted appropriations are controlled mainly by the Finance Department, and if that department were to exercise greater watch over the progress of expenditure during the year, I think this high percentage in non-voted appropriations could be minimized. Curiously enough, the Committee makes no comment on this high percentage which has risen up to 1·01. I consider, Sir, that steps should be taken to bring down this percentage to the normal standard, if it is the one prescribed, or at any rate to the percentage that has been taken 'for purpose of comparison' during the previous years, viz., ·16.

"I now come to the question of excesses which is referred to by the Committee in paragraph 9 of its report. The final voted grant under 'Stamps—Reserved' is stated to be Rs. 2,26,700 while the actuals were in excess of that amount by Rs. 4,685 ; and that works to a percentage of 2·1. The remarks of the Accountant-General at page 51 of his report make it clear that this could have been avoided if the controlling authority had been a little more careful :

On page 75 further explanation is to be found in the following terms :

'The supplementary grant was voted by the Council on the 24th March 1933 to meet excess expenditure anticipated owing to the enhancement in the cost of manufacture of

stamps at the Nasik Press and to an unexpectedly larger demand for stamps from the public. The excess over the final grant was, however, explained as due to the estimate framed by the Collectors of their requirements for the quarter ending June 1933 (the supply of which was received before March 1933) having proved low when compared with actuals.'

On this, the Committee says:

'It was explained to us that the variations were mainly due to the system under which Collectors get their supply of stamps direct from the Nasik Press on quarterly and annual indents, and the Board of Revenue which is the controlling authority has to depend on the reports of Collectors which are due with the Board as early as the first week of January of each year. When these reports are sent, the requirements for the quarter April to June, for which supplies are received in March have to be estimated by Collectors and when the actuals are known, it is found too late to apply for an additional appropriation.'

"I am really not able to understand what exactly this means. It is no doubt true that the excess is a small percentage. The requirements are estimated by the Collectors and they submit their estimates to the Board of Revenue; and the Board of Revenue have to send their indents to the Nasik Press. And therefore it is not possible to have a correct estimate. What about the actuals during the previous months? I do not see why a different system should not be devised with a view to prevent such excesses in the future. The system at present in force seems to be obviously defective, and a revision of the system would probably avoid such excess in the future. If the Board of Revenue, being the controlling authority, would only watch what exactly has been the sale during the previous month or quarter, they could certainly come to an approximate estimate as to what would be their actual requirements for the next period. What is needed is that this system should be re-examined and revised, if possible, to avoid such excesses.

"Now, Sir, there is another item on page 7 of the Committee's Report which relates to Refunds of Revenue. It is a very large sum, but on scrutiny we find that it consists of various sub-heads which are referred to in detail on pages 258 to 263 of the Accountant-General's Report. One important item which I would like to take from the Refunds of Revenue is that relating to VI. Excise—Transferred. It is stated:

'The excess was due to the payment made in March 1933 to the Cochin Darbar on account of a claim put forward by the Darbar for refund of duty on spirituous medicinal preparations imported into the State direct from Calcutta in 1931–32. The claim was under consideration for a *long time*, and the Excise Commissioner did not anticipate that a decision on the subject would be reached and payment made in 1932–1933. As the latest date for applications for additional appropriations was the 15th February 1933, additional appropriation was not applied for.'

"In page 258 of the Report of the Accountant-General, we find the following explanation:—

'Due to fewer refunds than originally anticipated.'

"But,

'the final excess was, however, due to additional claim for the refund of duty to the Cochin Darbar on account of imports of spirituous medicinal preparations into the State during 1931–32 having been finally determined in March 1933 and adjusted in the final accounts of the year.'

"*What I am taking exception to, Sir, is the delay that has been* caused in coming to a decision by the proper authority, be it the Board of Revenue or the Government. They admit that this claim was under consideration for a long time. In matters relating to accounts and closing of accounts, I fail to see why there should not be expedition in the matter of determining the disputes between this Government and any other State. In fact, the import has taken place in 1931–32 and the determination of the final accounts comes in March 1933 and is adjusted in the final accounts of the year. I would urge that Government should in such cases come to early decisions and not take an inordinately long time in coming to a decision.

"Coming again to paragraph 13 of the report of the Committee on page 8, the Accountant-General in his report on page 50 of his report, *under 'Excesses over Non-voted Appropriations,' gives a detailed* account of the excesses that have occurred under the various heads. He has referred to 14 items. I would only invite the attention of the House to his remark on page 51 of his report, at the bottom. With regard to item 13, 'Interest on other obligations,' the percentage of excess, *it will be noted, is 34·4 ; and the remark of the Accountant-General* on this item is :

'The excess has been occasioned as explained in the note below the appropriation account, by failure on the part of the controlling officer to obtain additional appropriation to meet the increased expenditure on interest charges owing to an increase in the closing balances of the Depreciation Funds on 31st March 1932.'

"He observes lower down :

'It is observed that the excesses in respect of items 3, 6, 11 and 13 could have been avoided if the rules governing control of expenditure had closely been applied by the controlling officers.'

"I want, Sir, that Government should take note of the observations of the Accountant-General. I find that the Committee have merely slurred over this observation and say they have no remarks to offer on this important question. In paragraph 13, they merely say that the appendix is placed before them and that they have no remarks to offer. Whatever might be the explanation of the department concerned, that there has been considerable irregularity in the procedure with regard to these excesses is noticeable and I would urge that the Finance Department do invite the attention of the controlling officers that they should be prompt in taking adequate steps to avoid such excesses in future.

"Again, Sir, with reference to the excess under the head 'Forest' referred to on page 51 of the Accountant-General's Report, I would like to know what exactly has been the action taken by the Government against the controlling authorities to prevent such things in future. I find nothing is mentioned as regards the action that they have taken against the controlling authority. The report of the Committee is also silent on this question. But I would like to say one thing and it is this : it would have been very pertinent on the part of the Committee to have considered this aspect—it is not that I am finding fault with the Committee—or these things should also have been brought to the notice of the

Committee and its remarks recorded on the irregularity pointed out by the Accountant-General and the action taken by Government. On page 53 of the report, the Accountant-General says:

'It will be seen from this statement and from the remarks dealing with the administration of the grants under the respective grant accounts that the estimating under so many heads—I omit those heads—requires to be improved.'

"He suggests that the accounting under Stamps, Forest, Irrigation, Electricity, Public Health, Veterinary Services, Cinchona, etc., requires to be improved. Then, further down, he says 'The excesses under XXXIII. Pensions and XXXVIII. Refunds of Revenue and the high percentage of savings noticed under VIII' and certain other heads—here he refers to several other heads—'are due, as explained in the notes below the Appropriation Accounts, either to the fluctuating nature of expenditure or to the special circumstances prevailing in the year under report and cannot be taken as indicating, defective budgeting.' But with regard to the grants referred to earlier, he suggests specifically that it requires considerable improvement. I would therefore suggest that the Government do take note of it and then issue instructions to the controlling authorities and budgeting officers to exercise greater and closer supervision on this.

"While referring to other items, the Accountant-General says on page 54 of his report:

'In this connexion it may be noted that the tendency to overbudgeting of these departments still falls short of the standard of accuracy which they may reasonably be expected to attain and it is this factor which counts mostly for the net percentage in the voted section, as shown in paragraph 23, being a little higher than the permissible limit of 3 per cent under normal conditions.'

"I would expect that the Committee had taken note of this and had also brought to the special attention of the department concerned the bearing of the remarks made by the Accountant-General.

"Under the head 'Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments' also, I would like the Hon. the Finance Member to tell me what steps he has taken to bring it to the notice of the controlling officers that closer application of the rules is necessary. (The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes: 'What is the item to which my hon. Friend refers?') Item 6 on page 50 at the bottom. The percentage of excess under the head 'Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments' is stated to be 1·3. The remarks at the bottom of page 51 apply equally to this item 6 also. I would like to know what the Government propose to do in connexion with that and what steps the Government have taken to bring it to the notice of the controlling officers that closer application of the rules is required; at any rate the House is entitled to know what steps Government propose to take in that direction.

"Then, Sir, with regard to item 13 on page 64 of the Committee's Report re: Interest on other obligations, I submit, that the House is entitled to know why additional appropriation was not obtained and what action has been taken against the controlling officer for his failure to obtain the additional appropriation. (The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes: 'Which remark of the Committee the hon. Member is referring to now?') I am referring to page 64 of the Committee's Report. It is stated there that 'the expenditure under this head is controlled by the Development

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Department. They did not obtain additional appropriation with reference to the revised estimate for 1932-33 under the head. They have made arrangements to see that such an omission does not recur.' No doubt, they have made arrangements but I would like to know what exactly is the nature of the arrangements that have been made. Further, Sir, it is stated that the Development Department did not obtain additional appropriation, but no reason is given as to why that application was not made for additional appropriation, whose fault it was and how the department dealt with the person who failed to make a demand for the appropriation in time.

"With regard to page 9 of the Report of the Public Accounts Com- 1 P.
mittee, relating to Irrigation Systems—Investigation of the productivity of Capital Expenditure, I remember, Sir, that on the last occasion, when the Report was considered by the Council, I suggested that the basis on which the productivity or non-productivity of any irrigation work is to be judged, ought to be revised and reviewed. I remember, Sir, if I am not wrong, the Hon. the Finance Member then said that he would look into the matter and place the result of his efforts in the direction, before the House. I would like to know, as this exactly is the opportune moment for me to ask him, whether he has taken any steps to modify the existing basis on which the productivity or non-productivity of any work is being classified.

"We have had occasion to know, Sir, and the Hon. the Finance Member himself knows, that the standard of 6 per cent of return on any capital outlay cannot now hold good, when large sums of money are available at 3 and 4 per cent interest. To classify a work as productive or non-productive according as it is able to yield a net return of 6 per cent or otherwise seems to me to be out of date. At present, businessmen are satisfied with 4 per cent and 5 per cent and if Government are going to stick to their old rules dating from time immemorial and made years ago with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, that no work ought to be classified as productive unless and until it yields a return of 6 per cent on the capital outlay, I should only say that this is not in keeping with the times. The times have changed and the Government ought also to revise the rules. The Hon. the Finance Member, I feel, must have taken some steps in this direction and if he has entered into correspondence with the Government of India and the Secretary of State for India, I would like, and the House would also like, to be told what exactly is the progress he has made in bringing about a modification of the existing basis of computing remunerative and unremunerative works. I would suggest that, in view of the experience hitherto gained in regard to the Mettur Project and the difficulties now being felt, as the Note and the Explanations show, it is not possible even for the Accountant-General to say what exactly will be the return, after the completion of the work; it is true one cannot really forecast that the whole project would ensure a return of 6 per cent, and whether the forecast of the return made ten years ago would be realized. Unless and until the present financial conditions change and trade revives and larger and larger tracts of land are

going to be brought under cultivation of the Mettur Project, I do not think, Sir, we can keep this project in the class of remunerative enterprises. No doubt 10 years have not yet elapsed and it is too premature to think of any definite result from the progress so far made ; but still, circumstances do not seem to justify our being sanguine about the results that might ensue from the working of the project. It is well known that the original forecasts themselves had to be revised once or twice and even now only very nearly, they say, the forecast has been realized ; but what is the guarantee that the forecast will be realized ?"

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES :—"May I know to which part of the Report, the Report of the Committee or that of the Accountant-General, the hon. Member is referring ?"

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—"I refer to paragraph 16 of the Report of the Public Accounts Committee which relates to this item, Irrigation Works in general, capital outlay, the basis of remunerative and unremunerative works. I was saying that the rate of interest on the basis of which works are classified as remunerative or unremunerative, must be changed and that proper steps should be taken to revise them. I am only requesting the Hon. the Finance Member to tell us what steps he has taken and what progress he has achieved in the direction or whether the same practice is sought to be continued for all years to come. On the other hand, the Committee consider that the present policy of the Government is safe and conservative and that they accept the policy. I would like this hon. House to say whether they are in a position to accept or endorse this view of the Committee. This policy may be conservative and may be safe ; but then, from the point of view of finance, is it really right, is it really proper on our part to have such a basis of classification though the conditions have changed, and the money market has become cheaper ? What is the effect of the insistence on a 6 per cent return ? The effect is that the cultivators, who will derive greater advantage from larger works being undertaken, are denied that advantage. If it is a 6 per cent return and if the contemplated scheme does not yield 6 per cent, that scheme, however useful and necessary it may be, will not be undertaken. In fact, the Government have had occasion to examine several schemes in the past, with a view to improvement of irrigation works, and I have no doubt—I do not think I will be contradicted—that all those schemes which yielded even 3½, 4 and 5 per cent had been given up. I would only request the Government to re-examine the whole question in the light of the present charged conditions and tell the House whether it is not possible to fix a lower standard of return than 6 per cent.

"Paragraph 17 of the Committee's Report on pages 10 and 11 discloses a state of affairs which ought not to prevail in a Government which lays claim to so much of efficiency. There was a dispute between the Power Securities Corporation and the Chief Engineer. That dispute is accounted for by a defective agreement which was entered into between the Power Securities Corporation and the Government. Now, Sir, the Government have a number of law officers, the Advocate-General, Government pleaders, Solicitors and very many legal luminaries in the

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department and if they go on entering into such defective agreements as they have done with the Power Securities Corporation or even with ordinary persons such as for the purchase of timber on previous occasions, I do not know how they can justify their claim to efficiency. How are they going to account for a mismanagement of the kind under notice? The note discloses not a very satisfactory state of affairs. I shall read out from page 10 of the Report :—

'The Chief Engineer pointed out to the Power Securities Corporation the loss involved and suggested a deduction on this account from the bills due to them. The Corporation did not agree.'

"What is the reason?

'They said that such deduction was not provided for in the agreement with Government under which they were acting as agents of Government for the construction on a cost and percentage basis.'

"Lower down they say that the whole thing had to be compromised. But, it is not known for whose advantage this compromise was settled. In fact, the Government had to shell out a sum of Rs. 1,50,000. In the note and the explanation, no mention is made as to what exactly happened to the claim of the Government and whether the Government got back 'Rs. 12,365 or about 8 per cent due partly to change in design and partly to some of the piers and anchors having had to be dismantled' or whether Rs. 1,50,000 was paid over and above the amount that was claimed from the Corporation. I would like to know, Sir, what the final terms of the compromise are. It would have been helpful if the Government had been more specific. In general, they say that 'in consultation with their legal advisers' they decided to pay the Corporation as compromise a sum of Rs 1,50,000 in full and final settlement of their claim. It is no doubt stated later in the paragraph that 'as a compromise, a sum of Rs. 1,50,000 in full and final settlement of their claim against the Government under the agreement as well as of the counter-claim of the Government against the Corporation' was paid to the Corporation. Why was the claim given up and under what circumstances? May I take it from the Hon the Finance Member that the Government got back Rs. 12,365 or merely gave it up in lieu of a payment of Rs. 1,50,000? I would like to have that point made clear.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the legal officers responsible for this state of affairs, I would like to know who they were and whether they are still in the service of Government. If they are yet in service, I would suggest that it is time that the Government changed their law officers who are leading Government into such heavy liabilities not once but too often. On a previous occasion, similar incidents occurred in the Forest Department. Although the Government have acquired sufficient experience of the loss that they and the public suffered in the working of those departments on account of the mistakes of legal officers, on account of delays caused by the departmental authorities and on account of non-record also of events that took place, it is regrettable that they have not profited by it.

"Sir, one more point and I am done. I come to page 56 of the Accountant-General's Report and pages 12 and 13 of the Committee's Report, regarding unnecessary supplementary grants. We are told that supplementary grants from various departments have been applied for, which were not really needed. I would invite the attention of the House to the very many items of supplementary grants asked for by the Government when they were not really needed or when it was actually proved that such grants were unnecessary. I would only invite the attention of the Government and the departments concerned to the remarks of the Accountant-General on pages 56 and 57 and ask the Hon. the Finance Member whether there is not a greater need for a close watch on the progress of expenditure under grants for Education, Public Health and Civil Works, then ever before. It is worth while knowing what exactly is going to be done in future in regard to a closer exercise of control by the controlling authorities.

"I regret that I have had no time to go through the other remarks of the Committee. (Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: 'He has taken an hour and he thinks it insufficient') I am not in a position now to elaborately comment on the other items in the Report. I would only request finally the Hon. the Finance Member to tell us what exactly are his remarks on the points that I have raised."

15 m. *Mr. V. T. Arasu :—"Mr. President, I should like to draw the attention of the House to one or two important remarks made by the Accountant-General in his Report on the Appropriation Accounts of Government for the year 1932–33.

"On a casual perusal of the report, it would seem to hon. Members that the financial administration of this Province is perfectly satisfactory, especially after reading the following sentence in the report of the Accountant-General :—

'Out of the total final grant and appropriations amounting to Rs. 17,89,30,500 a sum of Rs. 17,35,04,377 was actually spent resulting in a saving of Rs. 54,26,123 or 3·03 per cent of the total grant and appropriations.'

"This remark of the Accountant-General should not lead this House to the conclusion that in the matter of budgeting things are as satisfactory as one would desire. If you go deeper into the question you will find under the non-voted appropriations the difference between the actual allotment made and the actual expenditure incurred is very much greater than in the case of the grants voted by this hon. House."

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes :—"It is not 3·03 per cent as stated by the hon. Member."

*Mr. V. T. Arasu :—"For the non-voted appropriations alone it is very nearly 7 per cent. I am referring to the remarks at pages 61 and 62."

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes :—"The actual figures given are 1·04 per cent."

*Mr. V. T. Arasu :—"I am referring to non-voted appropriations; the difference between the actual allotment and the expenditure incurred

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is so great. This is a state of affairs which I hope the House will take note of and urge on the Government to control the spending departments whose income is derived from non-voted appropriations and not from grants voted by this House. In dealing with this point, the Accountant-General goes on to say that most of the irregularities have been noticed under grants relating to the Public Works Department which is the largest spending department of the Government. He further goes on to say that in most cases it is due to lack of supervision or negligence on the part of the officers concerned. This is a remark which the Government must take serious notice of. In paragraph 25 of the report, the Accountant-General gives specific instances where the departments had been rather lax. In the last paragraph on page 51 he says that the excesses in respect of items 3, 6, 11 and 13 could have been avoided if the rules governing control of expenditure had closely been applied by the controlling officers. These are some of the remarks which the Government would do well to take serious notice of and see that in respect of non-voted items of appropriation over which this Council has no control, money is spent properly within the limits allotted by Government.

"As regards certain remarks made by the hon. Member who preceded me, I should like, on behalf of the Committee to say a few words. No doubt the Committee has failed to take notice of many points raised by the Accountant-General. I wish the Committee had the time to raise all the points. But in this connexion I should like to point out to the House that the Committee constituted by this House is merely spoon fed and is not given a free hand to raise all the points. The procedure usually adopted is to place certain items and ask the Committee to go into the same. It is not open to any Member of the House to bring to the notice of the Committee any points raised by the Accountant-General and ask the Government to furnish further information and offer proper explanations. I hope this procedure will not be adopted at least in the future. If that procedure is adopted, I hope hon. Members would not take the Committee to task for having omitted to take important points into consideration. Some of the items which were pointed out by Mr. Basheer Ahmed as having been omitted by the Public Accounts Committee are really very important. At page 61 of the report of the Accountant-General reference is made as follows: 'As described in note 1 under paragraph 6 of the notes below the Appropriation Accounts for Grant XXIX, and the question of the adequacy of the stock of quinine sulphate raised in paragraph 2 (b) of the appendix deserve to be considered by the Public Accounts Committee.' Here is a case of an officer who was responsible for causing loss to Government to the extent of about 38 thousands of rupees owing to non-observance of certain rules."

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES :—"What is the authority for this statement? (Mr. Arasu: 'I am sorry. It is Rs. 38,000.' It makes a difference, is it not?"

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"It is a matter which the Committee should have gone into and offered certain remarks on. But the Committee was not given an opportunity for some reason or other which I hope the Hon. Member would explain to this House. The other point is with reference to the loans advanced to several public bodies. The Accountant-General states that the Government should take steps for the recovery of the same. That is a point which the Committee would have done well to go into and offer their remarks to this House on. So I wish at least in future the Hon. the Finance Member and the Government will give a free hand to the Members of the Public Accounts Committee to raise all points they think important and to report to the Council."

* The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"As regards Mr. Arasu's remarks that the Members of the Public Accounts Committee were not given a free hand to raise whatever points they considered important and that they were 'spoon fed' and allowed to discuss certain matters only, I really cannot accept that presentation of the position. My recollection of the procedure is this: that the report of the Accountant-General is circulated to the Members of the Committee well in advance and it is open to them to raise any point they like. If they find after a careful study of the report that one or other of the points had not been put on the agenda, or mentioned in the notes prepared for their assistance by the Finance Department, it is open to them to call for a note on or examination of it. To suggest, as my hon. Friend does, that the Members of the Committee were not given an opportunity to raise points in connexion with the appropriation accounts report is entirely misleading. Another complaint, so far as I understood it, is that it was not open to any Member of the House to bring points in the Accountant-General's report to the notice of the Committee. I do not know on what basis that statement is made. It is open to any Member of the House to examine it in detail and to draw the attention of any Member of the Committee to any point therein and, if he does so, the Public Accounts Committee Member can, if he sees fit draw the attention of the Government and the Public Accounts Committee to the matter. I think these two allegations are not sustainable. As regards Mr. Basheer Ahmed's remarks, he observed he had no time to study the report, but even with the cursory glance that he made of it, he spoke for an hour! If the House appoints a committee I suggest it is not necessary nor is it desirable that in a debate like this little points here and there should be discussed. That is what my hon. Friend seems to have done. I am deeply grateful to him for the interest he takes. But he might have a greater sense of proportion. I cannot go into all the details that he discussed. His remarks will be borne in mind and if anything requires action we shall take action. There is one point he mentioned at the beginning of his speech about a change in the system of accounts, relating to the apprehensions of certain kazis. We shall go into that and see whether there is any ground for that misapprehension. He also asked why the Members of the Public Accounts Committee did not comment on this point. If they thave not

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done so, the presumption is that they thought it unnecessary. Of course, nobody pretends that our system of financial control is perfect. Upon the whole, it may be fairly stated that the Finance Department is to be congratulated for effecting great improvements. If the heads of departments or controlling authorities were all archangels, no doubt the record would be perfectly spotless. But both they and we are human. I think that, on the whole, the Finance Department is to be congratulated upon the general result of the Accountant-General's examination of the state of affairs. His concluding remarks, I think, justify that conclusion. I won't take up the time of the House now by going into the minute points raised. I trust hon. Members who have spoken will be satisfied if I undertake to go into the points they have raised at leisure, and to see that anything that may be set right is set right. I need hardly add that the Finance Department is entirely with them in their desire to cure the various defects disclosed by the Accountant-General as our principal Audit Officer. As regards the rate of interest which should be taken as remunerative, it is a question which has already been gone into. After very careful consideration, it has been decided that it was not likely that we should be able to present such a case to the Secretary of State or the Government of India as would lead them to consent to a change in the six per cent rate to which my hon. Friend takes objection. The lower the rate you fix the more likely are you to waste money." (A voice : 'Question').

The motion was put and carried.

The House then rose for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

VIII.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS COMPULSORY LABOUR ACT, 1858 (BILL No. 18 OF 1934).

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" Sir, I beg to present the report[a] of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Madras Compulsory Labour Act, 1858 (Bill No. 18 of 1934), and at the same time to move that the Bill[a] as amended by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

" Sir, I do not think it requires many words of mine to commend this Bill to the acceptance of the House. The reason for this Bill is given succinctly in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. Briefly it is this, that under the present Act, in case of emergency, Government or Government officers may commandeer certain articles for stopping a breach in any river, channel, tank embankment and so forth. We have been advised that outside those articles mentioned in the present Act, there is no authority to commandeer any other article, and it has been proposed that power should be taken to commandeer gunny bags, earth and stone. We have also been advised that under the present Act measures can be taken only to stop a breach of any work after it has occurred. I think all hon. Members will agree with me that it is equally important and in many cases much more important that we should have power to stop a

[a] Printed as Appendix XIV-A on pages 121–123 infra.

threatened breach of any river, channel or embankment of any kind. Perhaps some members may remember that not many years ago there was a big flood in Tanjore, and with the power we now want to have and to the extent help was locally available, it might have been possible to stop the breach of the flood-bank of the Cauvery, and we need not have stood by until damage had been caused. We are advised that Government have no such power at present, and this Bill makes provision to provide such a power. I do not think there is any necessity for me to say anything more. I very strongly commend this Bill to the favourable consideration of this House."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

Clauses 1 and 2 were put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" Mr. President, I now move that the Bill be passed into law."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried and the *Bill* was passed into law.

IX.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS STATE AID TO INDUSTRIES ACT, 1922 (BILL No. 5 OF 1935).

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Mr. President, I beg to introduce a Bill [a] further to amend the Madras State Aid to Industries Act, 1922, for certain purposes (Bill No. 5 of 1935), and move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.

" Sir, it is a very short Bill. The purpose for which it is introduced is explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. In the State Aid to Industries Act, provision is made for the grant to nascent and other industries coming within the purview of the Act, of land, raw material, firewood or water which is the property of Government. At that time, electric power was almost unknown and therefore no provision has been made for the grant on favourable terms of electric power which is the property of Government. What this amending Bill seeks to provide for is that the Government should be empowered under this Act to grant electric energy also on favourable terms to industries which are eligible for State aid. The Bill, as I see, has been welcomed by the press, and I hope the House will also welcome it."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" I second it."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" Sir, while welcoming the principle underlying the Bill which has been introduced by the Hon. Minister for Education, I cannot help expressing my surprise that Government

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should indulge in this kind of piecemeal legislation. The Hon. Minister will remember that the Board of Industries constituted under the State Aid to Industries Act has recommended year after year the initiation of legislation by which State aid can be given to industries by way of supplying machinery and implements on the hire purchase system. This recommendation has been made by such a responsible body as the Board of Industries constituted under the State Aid to Industries Act, which I may call a statutory body, and the recommendation has been made year after year. I am surprised to see that the Government have not taken any action on that recommendation. The principle outlined in that recommendation is one which would go a great way to help the industries of this province, inasmuch as many cottage industries will be enabled to thrive if that form of aid is given. The Hon. Minister for Education has been saying in season and out of season that it is his aim and the aim of the party to which he belongs to encourage nascent industries in this province. It is surprising that the Hon. Minister should have thrown the recommendation of that Board to the winds; I would therefore request the Hon. Minister to withdraw this Bill and bring a consolidated Bill by which State aid can be given to industries also in the form of supplying agricultural and other machinery and implements on the hire purchase system. With this object in view, I oppose the introduction of the Bill."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—"Mr. President, Sir, I have no desire to ask the Government to withdraw this Bill as my hon. Friend has suggested. At the same time, I want to know from the Government what attitude they have been taking with regard to the encouragement of industries in this Presidency so as to call for a measure of this kind. It is no doubt true that cheap motive power is necessary for developing industries in this country, and electricity has been playing and is bound to play a very large part in developing industries in general. But my complaint to-day is that the Government has not been doing much—I might even say they have practically done nothing—in order to accelerate the industrialization of this country. The mere passing of the State Aid to Industries Act and adding any more provisions to that has remained and is bound to remain a dead letter and a mere addition to the already voluminous body of the Statutes of this Presidency, without substantial State help to improve the industries of this province, is of no use. I am surprised to see why this Government which has had ample opportunity for improving the industrial position of this Presidency has done very little in that direction. I was impelled to speak to-day because I recently had the opportunity of going through some pages of the reports in connexion with the famines that have ravaged this country where a reference to industries was made so early a time as 1880. The Famine Committee of which the late Sir John Strachey was the Chairman, while considering the remedies that they wanted to suggest to the Government in order to put an end to the rigours of famines in this Presidency in particular and in this country generally, have thought of one

thing, and that was the absolute necessity for industrializing this country. It was said, Sir, at a time when the people of this Presidency depended less on agriculture, as many small local cottage industries were then flourishing. That was a statement made fifty years ago when the country was less populated. If the House would bear with me, I would really like to quote a passage from that report."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think the hon. Member will be in order here in making an elaborate exposition of the industrial regeneration of the province."

15 n. * Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" But, Sir, my only difficulty is to know why this Council should help the Government to pass this legislation when we know for certain that no useful purpose will be served by it. The State Aid to Industries Act has been there for more than ten years, and what is it that has been done ? Very little. Every country in this world has recognized the absolute necessity of encouraging both agriculture and industries. The aim of this Government probably is not to attach much importance to industrialization. So I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the absolute neglect that they have shown towards industries hitherto, and that if we are to-day willing to vote for this legislation it is in the expectation that besides making the electric power cheap Government will take active steps to encourage industries on a very large scale. In every civilized country, establishment of what are called large scale heavy industries is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of the safety of the nation ; and the one chief industry that comes under this category is the steel and iron industry, the industry which goes towards manufacturing the machinery for manufacturing other things. With the power that would be produced at Pykara and Mettur, there is the possibility of developing the iron ores in the Salem district into a big industry, and it only needs the protecting hand of the Government to do so. There is little chance of private enterprise coming forward to take up this industry. So far as industrialization is concerned, for the past two generations, in spite of the open declarations of the Government, in spite of the declaration of the Famine Committee of 1880 to which I have already referred, in spite of the declaration of Sir John Hamilton in the House of Commons during the year 1890 that it would be necessary to industrialize this country, in spite of the statements made in the Montagu-Chelmsford Report on the necessity of industrialization of the country, and in spite of the statements made by other responsible authorities, I feel that the Government have done very little towards that end. And if I want to support this Bill to-day, it is in the hope that it is never too late to mend and Government would bestir themselves at least now and develop the steel industry with electricity from Pykara and Mettur.

" Another direction in which Government can usefully help is by means of substantial contributions to the share capital of joint stock companies of big key industries. The Government should cast aside their laissez faire policy and Manchester school tendencies and boldly

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undertake such big schemes or at least contribute largely to the share capital of any joint stock companies that may be formed for the purpose of establishing important industries."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member has not taken the hint given by me already."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" I request the Local Government to follow British model which has been followed in other respects, I will instance in this connexion the share capital contributed by the British Government towards the industry of manufacturing petrol out of coal, and towards the Cunard Liner Shipping Company. I hope that our Government will copy such models.

" One other suggestion I want to make. A lot of money has been spent on substantial buildings, and beautiful roads at Mettur and they are available for any big industrial schemes. In addition to the steel industry, paper industry may also be launched upon by the Government itself. They should at any rate contribute substantially by way of shares to any company that may be formed for undertaking such industries. I am particularly keen on this. Mysore Government is doing it ; we still have some faith in the Government, and I hope that Government would throw away their laissez faire policy and launch upon bold schemes for industrializing the country."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I noticed with some satisfaction that my hon. Friend Mr. Arasu started by saying that he welcomed the Bill but he concluded by advising me to withdraw the Bill. Am I to understand my hon. Friend to say that Government need not take power to help the industries in this country by supplying electric energy at favourable rates ? The result of the withdrawal of the Bill would be that Government will not have the power of making such supplies on favourable terms. I do not think my Friend will be earning the gratitude of promoters of industries by offering me advice of that kind. I am however thankful to Mr. Arasu and also to Mr. Koti Reddi for the suggestions they have made. When finances and other conditions improve, certainly greater aid will be given to industries, but I hope my hon. Friend will agree with me when I say that this small concession now asked for should not be withheld. As regards machinery referred to by Mr. Arasu, there is already a provision in the Act about payment of subsidies for purchase of machinery ; and as regards the hire purchase system, the Electricity department has introduced already a hire purchase system whereby facilities are granted for the electrification of factories and mills by small payments extending over a period of years. Legislative provision is necessary for enabling the Government to supply electricity under the State Aid to Industries Act. Therefore I submit that the criticisms of my hon. Friend have no bearing on the present Bill though they may be of use in framing legislation in future."

The motion that the Bill be taken into consideration at once was put and carried.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 were put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Mr. President. I now move that the Bill be passed into law."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU :—" I Second it."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

X.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT 1920 (BILL No. 1 OF 1935).

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill[a] to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, for certain purposes (Bill No. 1 of 1935), and move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.

" In doing so, I wish to say a few words explaining the objects of, the Bill. As has been already stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill, copies of which have been supplied to the hon. Members of this House, it is proposed by this legislation to avoid the necessity for revising the electoral rolls for the whole province every year. In future the Presidency will be divided into three groups, and electoral rolls will be revised only in the case of those districts for which elections would be held in that year. In the past few years, owing to the work connected with these elections not being spread over any fixed periods, experience has shown that in some years a large volume of work was thrown both on the Inspector and the Government, and the Government were compelled to appoint temporary staff for a few months who had no previous experience of this work. Again, this staff had to be disbanded after the elections were over. So it has been considered necessary and desirable, not only in the interests of efficiency but also in the interests of economy, to save unnecessary cost to local boards, to appoint three permanent units who will be entrusted with the work of regularly revising the electoral rolls of one of the groups every year, and thus we believe it will be possible to do the work more efficiently and at the same time with less expenditure. It is therefore proposed to divide the Presidency into three circles and hold elections in one circle every year.

" I find from some of the amendments, notice of which has been given, that certain hon. Members have suggested a redistribution of the districts in the various groups shown in the annexure of the Bill. I may state that these three groups were arranged not in any haphazard manner, arbitrarily, but on a particular principle and in accordance with the chronological order in which members elected to the various district boards have come into office. If any hon. Member is interested I have

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 22nd January 1935.

here a statement showing the dates of the various elections and the members that have come into office, from which he would see that these three groups were arrived at on a principle without any question of favouring any district or districts.

"As hon. Members are aware, Bill No. 14 of 1934, on practically the same lines as this Bill, was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on 28th July 1934, but, owing to the unduly long time taken up by other items on the agenda for the August session, this Bill could not be reached then. Again, I made an attempt to introduce this Bill in the January session of the Council and there also, as I felt that it would not be possible to proceed with the disposal of the motions for postponement as well as motions for reference to select committee in the short time then available, I decided not to take up this Bill. Therefore I have no other alternative before me but to introduce this Bill and move that it be taken into consideration at once. 3

"Although this Bill runs into three or four pages, the main principle of it is that the province should be divided into three groups and elections should be held in one group each year. All the other provisions are merely consequential amendments to achieve the object stated above. This Bill has been carefully examined even recently in the Secretariat and I do not see any necessity for it being referred to a select committe."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"I second the motion."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—"Mr. President, I rise to move the motion standing in my name, namely that the consideration of this Bill be adjourned *sine die*. In doing so, Sir, I should like, first of all, to say that if I were to look to my personal convenience, I should welcome this legislation. I am a member of a district board which under this Bill, would get an extended life of about one year. But, Sir, I am opposed to having any such advantage personally and that is why I have come forward to move the above motion.

"Sir, the existing Local Boards Act was passed only in the year 1930 and the elections under it were held only in 1932. We have not worked the system under that Act long enough to enable us to know its defects and before that we are asked to go back to the old order of things. The elections held in 1932 did not entail any insurmountable trouble or difficulty to any body. We had district election officers and some staff. Of course the Revenue department helped us with these people, but, it is a fact that the revised rolls under the enlarged franchise were prepared for the first time of course with a little difficulty here and there and the elections were on the whole held properly. For every district now, there is an officer known as district election officer in the district panchayat officer whom you have appointed and it is proposed also to have assistant panchayat officers with suitable staff. That being the case, it may be convenient for them to have the elections in their own districts conducted without undue trouble, quite contrary to the anticipated apprehensions of the Hon. Minister.

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"It is stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill that 'This (the present system of election) interferes with the normal working of the Government departments and offices in the mufassal. The maintenance of peace and order at polling stations also becomes a matter of difficulty to the police, as the district police are scattered *throughout the Presidency.*' But, the Hon. Minister, in his speech, did not give a single instance of such tronble having arisen at the elections. The last elections went on in a smooth way except in a few stray cases which did not deserve any mention. But, even there, there was no need to requisition additional police help as the Hon. Minister surmises. Therefore that part of the argument of the Hon. Minister has no force.

"The Hon. Minister then said that the Government departments have now to be requisitioned for helping the regular staff in the conduct of elections. I ask how he is going to avoid it even if he appoints an election officer and a staff? For polling and identification purposes the help of the other departments would have to be sought. His special staff and officer can only do the clerical and other incidental works connected with the elections. Therefore there is not going to be much advantage in appointing additional staff for the purpose of holding the elections. This proposal for additional staff will, moreover, involve additional expenditure for the local bodies at a time when they are finding it difficult to pay the present expenses for elections even under the existing arrangement. I am sure the appointment of an election officer and staff will certainly involve a great financial strain on the local bodies. And yet, can they manage without seeking the help of the other departments? They cannot. But is it a disturbance to the other departments to give such help? That is not so, because such help is desired only on the date of the polling and if necessary also on the day previous. The Revenue and other departments which are in a position to give this help cannot consider it as a trouble. The Revenue Department, whatever staff you may engage for these elections will have to give its own help. For, nobody other than the village officers would be in a position to give the information necessary for election purposes. Formerly, at the time of the general elections you got the loan of certain officers for preparing electoral rolls and conducting the elections. Now you have your own agency and there is no trouble with regard either to the preparation of electoral rolls or the conduct of elections.

"Sir, coming now to the question of the preparation of the electoral rolls, I must say that the Government are not moving forward at all. For a long time past we have been enjoying the privilege of getting the electoral rolls revised every year. This enabled a man who was under age last year at the time of the preparation of the rolls to come into the rolls and secure his franchise this year when they are revised. That privilege is going to be denied to him by the introduction of this measure. This Bill is therefore a retrograde piece of legislation.

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"Then, Sir, it is said that the revision of the rolls every year entails much waste of stationery, etc. As I shall presently explain, I do not see much weight in this argument either. What happens usually is that the election officer simply issues a circular to the Revenue Department and they give publicity to it. This work will hereafter be done by the special staff but for publication you have yet to trouble the Revenue Department. If the inhabitants of the place put in claims and objections, a small list of names would have to be added to the rolls. As far as I know there is no waste involved in this as suggested by the Hon. Minister. Now it is proposed to take away this privilege and keep out of the rolls younger people who can enjoy their franchise earlier for doing their service to the public. This is therefore a retrograde measure and we must not adopt such a step.

"On the question of the urgency of this measure, I may say this : this Bill was sought to be introduced in August meeting last ; there was time in November and then again it was brought in January of this year ; it was published in the Gazette a day or two prior to the date on which notice was given. These circumstances make one entertain the doubt as to the genuine necessity for it and lead to the suspicion that it has been brought in to serve one's own party ends. In this connection we may recall to our mind a question we had this morning regarding the nomination of a member to the City Corporation. In that connection the Hon. Minister said that he has not officially done anything that might serve the party ends. And yet one found in all the newspapers, without it being contradicted, that the Minister himself stated that he even went out of his way to nominate a particular individual towards the interests of his own party. This measure also makes me doubt whether it has not been brought forward with some such object. I may further say Sir, that I am strengthened in my belief by the possibility that the party in power may be interested in the postponement of elections to a few district boards which are under the power of their own party men so as to enable them to contest the coming elections to the Legislative Council with advantage. If that is the object Sir, it is not fair on the part of Government to put particular districts into great difficulty and hardship.

"As I was saying this measure will not be conducive to the interests of the public. I am not convinced about the urgency of the measure and about the usefulness of it. Sufficient experimenting has not been made of the present measure which has been brought into force only recently and has been tried only in one election. As far as I can see even though it was the first election on an extended franchise in every district, it was not a very great task, to have the elections peacefully conducted. 3 P.

"With regard to having a special staff to have the elections conducted, the Hon. Minister has not explained the necessity for the same sufficiently either in the Statement of Objects and Reasons or in his speech. So I move that the consideration of this Bill be adjourned *sine die* and if

there is any necessity for it, it may be brought in by the Hon. Minister at some other time or by some of his successors at the time when the necessity for the same is very much felt. I hope the Hon. Minister will be convinced of what I have said and that he will himself have the Bill adjourned as suggested by me."

*Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—"I quite see the object with which the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government wants to bring in this measure. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons he has given a few points which deserve careful examination. After setting out the reasons as to why he wants such a measure he mentions in detail certain specific purposes which he says have to be provided for. In the first place he says :—'In view of the difficulties and considerations set out above it is proposed,' I need not read what he has mentioned about these things in the first two paragraphs of the Statement of Objects and Reasons. In the concluding portion of it, he says 'It is proposed (a) "to dispense with the publication of annual lists of amendments to the electoral rolls prepared for local boards".' In in view of the reasons which he has given, viz., that it involves a large amount of labour to prepare the electoral rolls annually, I agree that it is really not necessary that electoral rolls should be prepared or that amendments should be made annually. In respect of the Legislative Council, the Corporation of Madras, and the Municipal Councils the practice that has hitherto been followed has been that the electoral rolls published in one year hold good until the next election. I do not see any objection as to why such a procedure should not be followed in the case of local boards also, if there is a need for it.

"Then, under (b), he proposes

'(b) to divide the Presidency into three groups of districts, consisting of eight or nine districts each (the grouping which it is the intention of the Government to bring into effect when the Bill comes into force, is shown in the Annexure).'

"I do not see how exactly this follows from the first provision. He wants that the district boards in the Presidency should be formed into groups. There is no reason given for that grouping except a general statement that elections have to be held throughout the Presidency in a certain year. I do not see that that is a sufficient reason for changing the present practice. In fact wherever election has been taking place on the system of rotation, viz., that a certain proportion of seats should be declared to have been vacated in a particular year, such a thing is going on. I may cite the instance of the City Corporation. In the Corporation this system of electing a certain proportion of members each year by rotation is in practice. Time and again serious objections have been raised in regard to this both from the political point of view as also from the point of view of healthy administration of the local bodies on the ground that this system is wrong and that it should not be continued in practice because from the political point of view it does not give rise to any single adminis trative body or any continuity of policy to be carried out in the Corporation. The election of all members at a time will

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conduce to the existence of a party which will carry on the administration in a proper and efficient manner. Election by rotation of a certain proportion of members every year does not conduce to any political development in the field of Local Self-Government. And yet, this is what the Hon. Minister is trying to bring into effect under this amending measure. He says, that the Presidency shall be divided into three groups of districts and that election for each group shall take place once in three years. I fail to see what is the political principle involved in this. I should say that it will not be in the interests of the whole Presidency as such. The objects mentioned in sub-clauses (*c*), (*d*) and (*f*) can be achieved by small amendments. Items (*a*), (*c*), (*d*) and (*f*) are all inter-related. Item (*c*) reads 'to arrange with the help of a permanent staff for the preparation and publication of the electoral rolls of every local board in each group once in three years'. That may not be objected to and cannot be objected to. But when once you appoint a permanent staff, there may be objection to extend the time for preparation of the original roll as well as the amendments.

"Then with regard to 'transitional provisions', I do not think there can be any objection. With regard to (*e*) I do not see where the necessity comes in 'to hold the ordinary or general elections in any year only to those local boards the rolls of which are prepared in that year'. On the other hand the policy should be that all elections should take place in one year and it should not matter whatever might be the expenditure and whatever migbt be the difficulty. The Hon. Minister has not stated that these difficulties are insurmountable. Once in three years elections to the Legislative Council and the Assembly are being held and neither the Government of this Province nor the Government of India have found it tremendously difficult to carry on the elections once in three years. So the difficulty is not really so great as the department has represented it to the Hon. Minister. I refuse to think that these are insurmountable difficulties. It ought to be possible for the Government to conduct the elections in one and the same year. It has been the practice not only in the case of elections to the local boards and municipalities but also in the case of Legislative Council to hold the elections in the same year. So also in the case of Legislative Assembly. I must invite the attention of the Hon. Minister to the public feeling that has been given expression to in other quarters that this kind of amendment to the existing Act is not really necessary, nor is it justified or called for. In fact, the Hon. Minister would do well not to press the question of the grouping of these districts for the purpose of election. I am inclined to agree with him that there is a considerable amount of difficulty in the matter of publication of the electoral rolls and also the amendments thereto every year. I do not think that the amendment of electoral rolls every year is really going to help us very much. If that idea is given up it will result in the saving of a certain amount of time and the staff that will be necessary for that purpose. There may be no objection to the other amendments. If the Hon. Minister would reconsider his

position and confine his amending Bill only to those necessary amendments as regards the electoral rolls which have brought about considerable difficulty, I think there can be no objection to such a measure. But I am afraid the difficulties which the Hon. Minister has pointed out are unnecessarily invoked. So I think the Hon. Minister ought to reconsider the whole situation and until that time the consideration of this Bill may stand adjourned.

"I second the motion."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The amendment is that the consideration of this Bill be adjourned *sine die*. The amendment as well as the original motion is for the discussion of the House."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" The Hon. Minister in his speech while moving for the consideration of this Bill has not given any additional reasons pointing out the necessity for constituting the districts into three groups beyond the reasons given iu the Statement of Objects and Reasons. The difficulties set out in the Statement of Objects and Reasons in regard to the holding of elections simultaneously in all districts seem to me more imaginary than real. At all events the difficulties are not so formidable as to necessitate the holding of elections for different groups of districts in successive years. One of the arguments put forward is that the holding of elections in all districts at the same time interferes with the normal working of the Government departments and offices. Sir, such interference with the normal working will take place at every general election to the Legislative Council or the local boards at whatever time it is held. The difficulty can be easily solved by making the election day a public holiday as is done in the case of Council Elections, or by elections in different circles being held on successive days so that Government servants in all parts of the districts may not care to go as polling officers on the same day. I have not been able to understand how the maintenance of peace and order at Polling stations has been found to be a difficult task. If the difficulty is real it can be avoided by having the elections for different circles on different dates. The elections for the district boards may be spread over for three or four months from October to January or February. The Bill proposes to extend the life of certain boards and cut short the term of office of members of other boards after the next election and make it only two years. I do not think it is fair that the term of office of members should in this way be cut down. The grouping proposed in the annexure puts together districts which are far removed from each other. In the first group they have districts from Vizagapatam to South Kanara. In the second group districts from Godavari to Tinnevelly and in the third, districts from Ganjam to Malabar have been included. It would be more appropriate to group together districts which are contiguous to each other so as to reduce the travelling allowance for the permanent staff which the Hon. Minister proposes to appoint. I agree with my hon. Friends who have spoken before me that there is really no necessity for the appointment of a permanent staff. It will mean more expenditure. By

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appointing local men temporarily for preparing electoral rolls we can reduce the expenditure and we can also save travelling allowance. So far as annual revision of the electoral roll is concerned I agree with the Hon. Minister that it may be dispensed with for the reasons set forth in the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

"The time for the preparation and publication of the electoral rolls may be extended up to the month of September or October as proposed in the bill."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—"Sir, coming as I do from a district which has already held elections to the District Board, I can say with authority whether the provisions contained in the Bill are welcome or not. From the Statement of Objects and Reasons I find that the Government intend to appoint a permanent staff for the preparation and revision of electoral rolls of every local board in each group once in three years. I welcome this provision for the simple reason that at present the electoral rolls that are prepared under the guidance of the Election Officers who are generally drawn from the Panchayat Officers' cadre, are very unsatisfactory and meaningless. In my own district I may say that all those people who have been assessed to some tax or other by the District Board, have been given the privilege of voting; no tax was collected from them and yet they were given the chance of voting. This created a lot of discontent among those people who had paid the taxes, when they found that even those people who had not paid the taxes had been included in the electoral rolls. Moreover, Sir, it is not a good thing that a certain interested person should be allowed to have the control of elections. For instance, as originated from the answer given by the Hon. Minister this morning about the Panchayat Officer in my district, to allow a member of a particular community to have under his control the preparation of electoral rolls majority of voters being of his own community and the holding of elections in his district is not fair. I know that at present there is lot of abuses and with this provision I think matters will improve. Since some districts have already held elections to the District Boards, I do not think that any shuffling of districts from one group to another now will help matters. I therefore support this Bill."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"Sir, I am afraid that this is one of the series of legislative measures that my Hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, has thought it fit to bring before this House with a view to centralise the working of local bodies in this Province. As was very aptly pointed out by my hon. Friend, who is not present here now, Mr. Yahya Ali in his presidential address the other day at the Conference of Chairmen of Municipalities, an attempt is being made to make local bodies a sort of subsidiary bodies to the Government Secretariat. It is unfortunate that the Hon. the Chief Minister instead of liberalizing the working of local bodies in this Province, has thought it fit to deprive local bodies of their elementary powers and to make them subsidiary organizations to the

Secretariat. I must confess that I have not been able to find any satisfactory reason for bringing forward this kind of legislation at this stage. If I should go further into the reasons behind this legislation, I am afraid I cannot but state that there is some political motive behind it. The object of the party seems to be to so organize the working of the District Boards in this Province as to prevent their being instrumental in helping any liberal party to come into power. We have seen how this system of election by rotation has worked in the case of the Madras Corporation. We have found how this system has made it possible for one party to remain in power for years to come. It has never been possible for any party with a liberal programme of its own to go to the city or to the country to enable it to send a large majority of the members of that party to the local bodies. I think the reason for dividing the district boards into three groups is the fear of my hon. Friends of the coming elections under the Revised Constitution. Presidents of district boards and members of local bodies are to a very large extent responsible for influencing the elections to the local legislature as well as to the central legislature. If elections are held to only a limited number of the district boards in a year, it will not be possible for the other district boards to influence the elections. In a particular year the political atmosphere in the province will be of one kind ; in the subsequent year the political atmosphere in the whole province will be of a different nature altogether. Why should we not allow all the district boards to come under a common political influence that prevails in the province in any one year ? It is just possible that all the district boards might come under the influence of the Congress movement in one year ; in another year they may come under the influence of the Justice Party ; in a third year, they may come under the influence of a third party. The influence of each party in the matter of elections to the district boards is very great. It may be the view of certain hon. Members that local bodies should not be influenced by political considerations. But I think we will be committing a terrible mistake if we try to remove political influence on the administration of local boards. Each party has its local programme and political programme, and if it has a liberal local programme, it must have influence for a period of years ; it must influence the administration of local bodies all over the province. If the programme of a particular party has no influence in a certain period of years, it will be possible for other parties with different programmes to come to ascendency and control the administration of the local bodies. In order to prevent this liberal influence on the administration of local bodies, a measure of this kind is sought to be passed. But I am sure that hon. Members would not be a party to deprive the local bodies of the opportunity to come under the influence of the particular political atmosphere that is prevailing at the time. I do not think that the difficulties now felt are insurmountable. The difficulty in the matter of the preparation of the annual electoral rolls can be easily overcome. I do not agree with those hon. Members who think that the electoral rolls need not be revised annually ; I think it is necessary. In this connexion

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I must point out that the holding of elections to the local legislature on the basis of the electoral roll prepared four or five years ago is unsatisfactory. We should not copy this unsatisfactory method in the case of district boards also. In order to surmount the difficulty of preparing the electoral roll for the whole province at one and the same time, it is proposed to group the district boards. The argument that is advanced by the Government that it will be difficult to maintain peace and order if the elections to all the district boards are held at one and the same time and that it is necessary to have a permanent staff for the revision of the electoral rolls, is not at all satisfactory. All these difficulties which they have pointed out can easily be overcome, if they make proper arrangements.

"As has been pointed out by Mr. Shetty, elections can be spread over a period of three months ; elections need not be held all on the same day, as in the case of elections to the Legislative Council or Assembly; elections can be spread over a period of three months ; one group of district boards can have elections in one month ; another group in another month and a third group in the third month. I do not think there is any necessity at all to put off elections for a year for a number of district boards, and for two years for other district boards. I do not think I need go into the question of the grouping of the district boards, because I think that the elections should be held for all the district boards in one and the same year."

Sriman M. G. PATNAICK Mahasayo :—" Sir, I did not want to take part in this discussion, but I think now that I should not allow the remarks made by some members to remain uncommented. There is much confusion of ideas and lack of good thinking. The Bill is opposed on the ground that if elections are held in instalments, a new party cannot come into power and the old party will continue to be in power for ever. Mr. Shetty said that the elections might be held at different times. That shows want of clear thinking on the part of the member who expressed it.

" Even according to my friend, if elections are to be held, they should be held for all the district boards at the same time. If that is so, the proposal that elections should be spread over three or four months drops out automatically.

" A statement was made that as a result of this Bill, all the local boards would be made part of the Secretariat. I wish to point out that that system has been working in regard to the City. The hon. member who made that statement has got sufficient experience of the City, and he should have said that what has been prevailing in the City should be extended to the mufassal. There is no reason why it should not be done. Unless Government take some power to check the unbridled power and the tyranny of the district board presidents, I think there will always be trouble. These presidents are becoming real tyrants. Some presidents may think that if the period is cut short, their present position is gone, as they cannot be sure of becoming presidents again ; while

in the case of some others, they may continue as presidents for a longer time, even though they are not liked by the boards themselves. That is the whole trouble.

"Another member also suspected some political rat behind this Bill. I cannot understand how it can come in here; he should have pointed out how it had any connexion with the Bill before us. Moreover, what have the elections to Legislative Council got to do with elections to local boards? My hon. Friend who said that these boards should not become part of the Secretariat, at the same time stated that whatever party was in power should get into the local boards also. That, I say, shows a deplorable lack of clear thinking. Supposing the Congress Party becomes powerful in this part of the country and also runs the administration, is it necessary that all the presidents and members of the local boards should also be congressmen? Or if the Justice Party is in power, does it mean that all the presidents and members of local boards should belong to that party? No, certainly not. On the other hand, whatever party may be in power, the people in the districts should have their own men in the local boards. I admit in the case of certain boards, there may be an extension of their term by a year or so; while in some cases the period may also be cut short; but that is only, as the Hon. Minister pointed out, a sort of readjustment. That can never be a reason for not having a permanent staff to carry on these elections in the districts. There is great trouble experienced in the districts in regard to these elections. Even if the Collector is entrusted with these elections, the services of the local board teachers and others have to be requisitioned; and there is therefore great interference with the administration. There is a good deal of injustice done in the elections; as far as possible, I think the people who conduct these elections should not be local men. Then only can we have anything like fairness. Otherwise, the Presidents and other people in power will always try to influence the elections in a manner suited to their own advantage. I think, Sir, the Government have done well in bringing forward this measure; they should have done it long ago."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Mr. President, at the very outset, let me say that the Bill contains many retrograde provisions. Firstly, the present system of revision of electoral rolls every year is being taken away, and we can have electoral rolls revised only once in three years. After all, we are not spending much money over the preparation of these electoral rolls. They need not be published in full every year from end to end. We can be satisfied with a correction list every year, while the full list may be treated as the preliminary roll; and people whose names are omitted therein can apply for inclusion. Such a correction list may not after all contain more than ten, twenty or even a hundred names in any taluk, and so it cannot entail greater trouble for the Government or the election department. We have panchayat officers in every district, and they will be able to prepare these correction lists with their own staff. For the matter of that, even if an extra clerk

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is needed, we can give; and the number of such extra clerks may not exceed two or three for a district. Even now, so far as I know, some panchayat officers are given additional staff to deal with any unforseen work; we need not therefore grudge giving an additional clerk for this work, if necessary. Recently, the Congress people decided to come into the municipal councils and local boards; and if they do not take sufficient care to bring the list up to date, they will have to suffer for it. Therefore, I say by this means we can allow every voter to come into the list every year.

"Another important point is this: by this Bill we are giving an extension of life to various local bodies. This is a retrograde step. Already, the extension given to the Legislative Council is being felt by the people, and any extension given to these local bodies will dissatisfy the people much more. I therefore feel, Sir, that it is not fair to extend the life of the local bodies. Apart from that, I know that such extension is already being granted to many local bodies by the Government without anybody's knowledge. For example, in my district, about hundred panchayats roughly, have not had elections for the last five years; in other words, the usual term of three years has been extended. I do not know where the mistake lies for this state of affairs. I brought it to the notice of the Hon. Minister through a question, but I did not get any satisfactory reply. In the statement of objects and reasons, it is said that provision is made for holding elections only 'to those local boards the rolls of which are prepared in that year' and also for 'making necessary transitional provisions adjusting the dates of the next ordinary elections'. These are dangerous provisions. To give power either to this Government or to any future Government to extend the term of boards so as to enable them to gain time for canvassing, etc., is most objectionable. Even at present, we are not having elections all on one date. A glance at the grouping of the districts shows that North Arcot, Bellary, South Kanara and Trichinopoly have had elections in 1932 while other districts in that group or in the other groups had their elections on various different dates. Therefore, the Hon. Minister's argument that if elections are held in one day in all the districts we cannot get enough identification officers, etc., is not quite correct. After all, identification officers are not imported from outside the concerned districts; they come only from the district in which elections are taking place.

"There seems to be also no principle in the grouping of the districts. There are districts in group I which had elections in 1932, and similarly in groups II and III. Again, there are districts in all these groups which had elections in 1933. For instance, in the third group, all the districts from Ramnad to Kistna may be grouped separately, leaving out Malabar, Salem and East Godavari.

"Moreover, Sir, the extension of the life of the local boards gives a lot of trouble to the people; persons who have been out of these boards and who want to come in will feel it very much, and we will be creating

bad blood among the people. I therefore request the Hon. Minister to drop the Bill preferably, or if that is not possible, to observe some uniformity in the grouping of these districts. I may also point out, Sir, that although this Bill was brought before the Council on three previous occasions, every time it was not taken up. Once when this Bill came up when the late Mr. Muniswami Nayudu was alive, he pointed out that this must go to a Select Committee, and the Hon. Minister was prepared to drop it then. Subsequently, it was brought up before the House the other day, and the Hon. Minister said he won't move it ; and even after coming to an agreement as to the names of members for the Select Committee, he thought it fit to drop the Bill. He now comes forward with it and says that it should be passed into law at once. That is a very undesirable step ; and I request the Hon. Minister to give some respect to the sentiments expressed on this side of the House. If he cannot drop the Bill altogether, at least let him allow it to go to a Select Committee where its provisions may be carefully gone into. I gather the Hon. Minister has already framed a list of members of the Select Committee from the various groups in the House. If he is anxious to have the Bill passed in this session, there is still time ; we can take this up some day in March. I therefore request the Hon. Minister to consent to this Bill being referred to a Select Committee."

m. * The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—"Mr. President, Sir, as I have already stated in the beginning, since July 1934 this is the third attempt to get through this Bill. The motion now before the House is that this Bill be adjourned *sine die*. I am afraid I cannot characterize this attempt as anything but dilatory. From the speeches of the several hon. Members, without meaning any disrespect to them, I gather that they have not clearly understood the provisions of this Bill. For example, my Friend Mr. Nachiayppa Gounder has stated that in some cases the life of the district boards is being extended by two years ; and then again, Mr. Hameed Khan observed that we are introducing a system of one-third of the members of a district board retiring each year as in the Madras Corporation. That is not at all the correct position. We are not having a system of holding elections for one-third of the strength of the district boards. But the idea is to hold elections for one-third of the districts in the Presidency each year. Another misapprehension which several hon. Members have exhibited and expressed themselves strongly is the change from the existing system of having elections in all the districts in one year and to spreading them over three years. As a matter of fact, under the existing law, elections are not held in all the districts in one year. My attempt in introducing this Bill is to distribute the work evenly over a period of three years in the interests of administrative convenience. Otherwise, it will not be possible to maintain a permanent, trained and qualified staff to do the work efficiently and properly to the satisfaction of the Government. Experience has shown that even to bring the Act of 1930 into force, it has taken over three years ; and although I do not mean to say it is impossible to hold the elections, I can say it is a very expensive business, especially in the matter

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of revising the rolls and making proper arrangements for the conduct of the elections; and experience has shown that it cannot be done satisfactorily.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Shetty has stated that there is no economy in the proposals contained in the Bill, because the various districts in each group are scattered throughout the province. I believe I need not again say on what principle we have arrived at the three groups. But I may state for the information of the hon. Member that it is proposed to appoint three permanent units for preparing the electoral rolls; and each unit will attend to the work in one of the three groups, and so there will be no difficulty of the permanent units being sent from one end of the Presidency to the other. Each of the three units appointed will work in one of the circles and they will attend to the electoral rolls of those districts in which elections will be held that year.

"It has been remarked that it is retrograde to have the rolls revised only once in three years and not every year. Under the existing Act, it makes it a statutory obligation on the Government to complete the revision of the rolls before the end of June. Experience has shown that the work of revising the rolls can be taken up only after the end of April when the new assessment of taxes are usually made, then we have to find a special temporary staff from the various departments; and then they are expected to complete the whole work in one month. They have to prepare a preliminary roll, there must be time for claims and objections, and there must be time for appeals; and the rolls have to be completed before the end of June. In other words, what is actually happening is, that we are only carrying out a most unsatisfactory revision of the electoral rolls; and as the law now stands, it will be impossible for Government to make an improvement in that direction. No doubt, it may be more convenient in the case of by-elections which will come once in a way, to have the rolls revised that very year. But if hon. Members will realize the amount of labour and expense involved in revising the electoral rolls properly throughout the Presidency, I am sure they would not suggest that we should have this luxury. Moreover, before elections are held for any district, the Act clearly lays down, that the rolls must be revised thoroughly; and so I do not understand the objections of hon. Members on this point. Moreover, the cost of preparing these rolls will come to fifty or sixty thousand rupees in all of the three divisions, and all this money will have to be recovered from the local boards. I do not think the results achieved will be commensurate with the trouble and expense involved in connexion with this work. While personally I have no objection on principle to have annual revision, provided you have sufficient funds and provided the local boards are prepared to find the necessary funds to keep a large staff working throughout every district, every year permanently, I am afraid, in the present financial condition of the Government and the local boards, it is a proposal which we cannot accept at the present time.

"Again, Sir, Mr. Hameed Khan has also misunderstood me when he stated that it is not desirable to hold elections on the basis of the old electoral rolls. The whole basis of the amending Bill is of course, if elections are to be held in a particular district, rolls have to be revised.

"I have left the remarks of my Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder who has moved the motion now before the House, to the last. Of course, he seems to be viewing the whole Bill on the basis of his own district. I am afraid, in spite of my explanation, he still persists in judging the Bill through his own spectacles; and whatever I might say may not carry conviction. I also find that opportunity of this kind has been taken by certain members of the opposition to throw mud on the Party in Power. I suppose it is the privilege of the Opposition to take such opportunities, and I do not want to complain against that.

"In his speech, Mr. Hameed Khan has made pointed criticism against the Government on the question of the appointment of Commissioners to Municipalities. Political memories are short; and if only he goes back a few months, he will find that this is one of the beneficial measures passed by the Legislative Council and which was violently supported by the opposition. At the same time, they even wanted to carry this principle to the case of district boards and I had also come in for a good deal of criticism for suggesting that we should move slowly in this matter.

"As I have clearly explained the position, Sir, I am sure what I have stated will satisfy all reasonable men. I therefore oppose the motion that the Bill be adjourned *sine die*."

*Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—"Mr. President, Sir, the reply which the hon. the Raja Saheb has given, does not, I am sorry to say, convince me at all, and I am not therefore in a position to withdraw my motion for the following reasons. The hon. the Raja Saheb has stated that I am looking at the Bill through a particular lens pertaining to my own district and I may tell him in reply that not only with regard to my district but also with regard to all the other districts, I am using a lens which will show proper vision to all disinterested persons; but to those who have got some object behind it, my lens is sure to give them a distorted vision. I m not at all convinced of the hurry with which this measure is brought in now and this also makes me doubt the genuineness of the interest the Hon. Minister is hereby taking with regard to elections and such other matters. I have been agitating for a very long time for an important piece of legislation with regard to local bodies and that is this. In the present Act they have made no provision for dissenting minutes by members of district boards. Though the Government have realized the importance of this provision, they have been saying that they have been considering amendments and that they would take the opportunity of bringing forward an amending Bill as early as possible, but at the same time they are putting it off indefinitely.

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"They have been attempting piecemeal legislation with regard to local boards; and this measure is conspicuous for the absence of such important amendments in the directions which have been agitating the mind of the public. It is quite possible that this measure can be brought in after the budget has been passed. Sufficient reasons are not forthcoming as to why this measure cannot be considered on a later date.

"In the matter of elections, all along, the Revenue Department have been conducting them without any assistance from the local boards. Now, we have a staff. We have the Panchayat Officers or the Election Officers. With such staff and with some help from the Revenue Department—even if we have some special staff for the purpose, we shall have to request their help—we shall be able to get along without any trouble and we need not entertain any fear of any insuperable difficulties having to be faced. I strongly feel, Sir, that the necessity for this measure is not felt and I press my motion."

The motion that the consideration of the Bill be adjourned *sine die* was put and lost.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—"I want a poll to be taken on this question, Sir."

*The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—"It has already been declared that the motion was lost. The hon. Member ought to have been more alert."

*Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I move that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee. I shall give the names of Members later on, if this motion for Select Committee is passed."

*The Hon. the PESIDENT :—"I may advise the hon. Member not to repeat the arguments that have been already adduced while discussing the last amendment."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKKAR :—"Yes, Sir. Though the Bill appears to be a small one, it contains very sweeping changes. For instance, it takes power to do away with the annual revision of electoral rolls; it takes power to extend the term of members of eight or nine districts, by at least one year, and to reduce the normal term of members of certain districts from three years to two years. These changes being of a sweeping nature the natural course would have been to refer it to a Select Committee where these points could be considered at greater length and more efficiently than in the open Council. The Hon. the Minister himself, I am certain, cannot press its consideration in the Council on the basis of the urgency of the measure, because the Bill under discussion (as Bill No. 14 of 1934) was published as early as 28th July 1934. And I do not know for what reasons the Hon. Minister did not introduce it then. Once again, that Bill was brought up for consideration in the last sitting of the Council and again it was not moved. If the Hon. Minister was particular that the Bill ought to be gone through, he could have easily found the time or could have arranged for getting more time if it was required. Also, Sir, in the last sitting of the Council, he tried to have it referred to a Select Committee. I do not know why he gave up that idea and now wants to rush through the Bill. Sir,

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during recent years, for some reason or another, there has been a tendency for hurrying on legislation, and also the spirit of legislation is not carried out in the practical working of it.

"For instance, in the matter of the amended Act, by which Commissioners are appointed to municipalities, it was definitely fixed that Commissioners should be appointed to a cretain number of municipalities and a sort of extraordinary power was given to the Government to appoint Commissioners for certain municipalities wherein they found that the administration was not properly carried on. The number fixed in the Schedule was only twelve or thirteen; but in the working of it, we see that Commissioners have been appointed to a large number of municipalities, at least double or treble the number mentioned in the Schedule. I think that it is not quite proper for the Government to appoint Commissioners to municipalities on the basis that those municipalities are not working properly; to exceed the very limited powers granted to them to cover extraordinary cases, they ought to consult this House by way of an amending Bill. Unfortunately, this has not been done.

"By the Local Boards Amendment Act, the Government were given power to nominate persons representing certain minority communities in case district boards are bifurcated; and hon. Members expressed a doubt that that power was liable to be abused by the Government. I believe the Hon. the Chief Minister then stated that it was not likely that those powers would be abused; but that he would use them in the best interests of the public and the country. I think I may not be out of place if I just refer to what he said in that connexion. I think it was in reply to Mr. K. P. Raman Menon, the Minister said,

'Mr. Raman Menon has stated that it will be open to Government by nominating minority communities to completely swamp the District Boards. No doubt, it has now become a fashion to say that whatever power is given, Government are going to abuse. I can assure hon. Members that Government can be trusted to act in a responsible manner in this respect. The Government are to abuse their powers, there.'

"May I just draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the recent nominations made to the District Board of East Tanjore? As hon. Members are aware, the District Board of Tanjore has been bifurcated into East and West Tanjore District Board. To the East Tanjore district board, the Hon. the Minister has nominated four or five persons on the basis that the minority communities should be given representation. I understand—if I am wrong, he may at once correct me—that the communities for which nominations have been made by the Hon. Minister are already represented on that board. Why then did he nominate fresh men of the same communities? Whereas for the East Tanjore District Board nominations have been made, for the other board Tanjore West no nominations have been made.

"That is why I am very much afraid that this sort of discretionary power should not be given to the Government. The Hon. Chief Minister may have done it prompted by very noble and lofty motives according to him. But afterall, persons controlling the Governmnet are also

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human and it is quite likely that, in common with other human beings, they are liable to err. Therefore provision should not be given for the exercise of large discretionary power.

"It has been pointed out that there will be difficulty in holding the elections simultaneously at one and the same time for all the district boards in the presidency. If that is so, may I ask him how the elections for the Legislative Council under the future constitution with a more extensive electorate than at present, is going to be conducted at one and the same time? So it means that some means should be found to carry it out. That being so, I would enquire how any special difficulty will arise in the matter of holding elections to the district boards at one and the same time as in the past. Further, there is another advantage, since the taluk boards have been abolished there will be less difficulty in holding elections for all the district boards all over the presidency. I would therefore urge on the Government that it will be better and will be in the interests of the public and the country that this Bill is referred to a Select Committee wherein all these provisions which aim at such sweeping changes may be discussed. I am aware that the Hon. Minister is anxious to have this measure passed quickly in view of the difficulties he has set forth. If so, he may arrange for the Select Committee sitting early and the Report being made ready for consideration by the Council in about a week."

*Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gownder:—Mr. President, Sir, I have much pleasure in seconding the motion so ably moved by my hon. friend representing North Arcot district. As was stated by the hon. Mover, the Bill was published in July and again it should have been brought up for consideration at the November meeting. But I do not know why it was not moved by the Hon. Minister. Again in January meeting, he gave notice for referring it to a Select Committee. He did not think it proper to publish the Bill early enough and even during the last meeting, several hon. Members complained that they had not received a copy of the Bill, the gazette in which the publication had been made having gone to their headquarters. With great hurry, the Bill was printed and we could even see the ink wet on the copies that were supplied to us. I do not see any reason why there should be any hurry in getting this Bill passed now. The Hon. Minister cannot say that he has not had sufficient time to get the Bill through a Select Committee. He had ample oppurtunities of getting it through a Select Committee for the past eight months. I think, Sir, that the procedure of bringing in a controversial measure, after deliberate delay, and of rushing it through at the last moment, is not fair to this hon. House. (Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Batt: 'Hear, hear'.) If the Hon. Gentleman fears that the time is not enough, I may suggest that the Select Committee may sit day after day until the business is finished.

"Even if it is not possible I do not think much is lost. Anyway they are having elections according to his programme of grouping districts for about twelve districts this year. Only there are nine districts 4-30 p.m.

[Kr. K. A. Nachiappa Gounder] [20th February 1935

more. I cannot think of any in-surmountable difficulty, if the elections to the other nine districts are also so completed this year. I do not think this will be impossible. If such a measure is necessary you can bring it sometime next year. Sir, the Hon. Minister himself last moved for reference to a Select Committee. He gave notice of a motion for the purpose on 26th January 1935 and I am surprised to see why he is in a great hurry to rush it through now. As the Minister has expressed that our main object in moving this motion is a dilatory one, I assure him that we are not moving it in that spirit. It may appear to him so because of the numerical strength behind him in a superannuated Council like this. But we are bound to express the opinion of the country in general and in pursuance of that bounden duty we are moving the motion in order to emphasize public opinion. As far as I am concerned I am not at all sorry whether this motion is adopted or rejected. Whatever may be the vote of the House I have done my duty. He may think in his anxiety to pass the measure that the Bill should get through somehow or other perhaps to serve his own ends. Having himself once admitted that it should go before the Select Committee I do not think that he will come forward to say now that it should not go before a Select Committee. The area has to be divided into groups and each group has certain districts. Look at the tabular column in clause 7 (3). We find some changes which are not found in the previous Local Boards Act. The Minister wants to give a life of two years to some districts where their normal life ought to be three years. Such changes should not be made in a drastic way and it must be thrashed out on all sides to see whether it is proper to bring in such a thing. Then with regard to the establishment of staff it requires a permanent staff and special provision. The Minister says that he wants permanent trained staff established for the purpose. I do not know what training he is going to give and whether a training college is to be opened. Government have already appointed such functionaries as panchayat officers and they are also looking after election works. They are all supposed to be trained somewhere though not in the institution to be started. They may have conducted panchayat elections and they may have trained clerks under them and they can go on without a huge staff migrating from one end of the Presidency to the other at the cost of the taxpayer. Nevertheless the new staff proposed to be created is also going to trouble the Revenue department for each and every particular. The Revenue department is going to complain. At present we may say that we have not sufficient staff and hence they should help us. But if they were to be troubled even after having a separate staff they may not be prepared to help you. Though some flimsy reasons are mentioned in the Bill under statement of Objects and Reasons, the Bill requires the closest scrutiny in all its bearings. Even if the Minister is intent upon bringing this measure into force it must be sent to the Select Committee. So, Sir, I have much pleasure in seconding this motion and I hope since the Minister has already committed himself to the view that it is necessary to go to a Select Committee I hope he will, consistently with that view, accept the motion."

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* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" After the very conciliatory speeches of both the mover and the seconder I submit that the Hon. the Chief Minister has very little reason to refuse to accept the motion before the house. As has been pointed out, it is not a new motion before the House. The Chief Minister at one time was agreeable to refer the Bill to the Select Committee. Even from what he said to-day, it appears to me to be a matter fit for reference to the Select Committee. On principle, he is not against the preparation of the electoral rolls every year. There is only the question of cost to be considered. On the other hand some proposals might be made, which will have the effect of appreciably reducing the cost to a reasonable figure. It may be possible for the boards technically to have the electoral rolls every year, though the full list may be published only once in three years. Sir, it has been said by more than one speaker that they do not stand in the way of the Bill being passed into law before the session is over. If necessary, the Chief Minister may refer the Bill to a small Select Committee consisting of one or two representatives, each of his party and of the other parties in the house, get the Committee to meet to-morrow and be done with their report. I submit from my experience that there is nothing that need be feared by having the matter discussed in Select Committee. On the other hand, there is every chance of the Bill being improved. So I submit that the motion may be accepted by the Chief Minister with a direction that the report be presented before a certain date."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I would like to add my small voice to that of Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar that on the whole you will do well to refer the Bill to the Select Committee. The Minister wants to pass this measure before this session is over. As suggested by Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar the Bill may be referred to the Select Committee and brought back on the 26th so that the measure may be passed in an agreed manner."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I find that most of the arguments now advanced had been advanced in connexion with the original motion that the consideration of the motion be adjourned sine die. Of course hon. Members stated that the Bill was published in June 1934 and having waited so long why not wait sometime longer. Delay should not be made an excuse for further delay ; but on the other hand one must avoid delay and expedite matters. After all the delays through which this Bill has passed, charges were made light-heartedly that the ministry is trying to rush through legislation. It was also shown that I made the original motion for reference to the Select Committee. It is not to disregard the wishes of the Opposition and to make use of the majority sitting behind me which was mentioned more than once that I have given notice of this motion for the Bill to be taken into consideration at once. I remember very well, Sir, that this Bill came up in July when deliberate attempts were made to prolong the discussion on the motions with reference to the City Municipal Act so that my Bill might not be reached again. (A Voice : Question.) Again when this Bill

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came up in the meeting of January, speakers were specially brought forward and recruited to prolong the discussion on the Elementary Education Act." (A Voice: Question)

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it not possible for the Hon. Minister to accelerate the disposal if he had wanted it ? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I do not understand the interruption."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" If he had wanted the quick disposal of the Bill he could have applied closure or he could have moved *for the change in the order in the agenda.*"

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" When the previous Bill was not finished and when there are two motions on the Agenda one for adjourning the consideration and another for reference to the Select Committee—from my experience we have seen how many hours it has taken to-day. I felt, Sir, that even if the various constitutional methods open for expediting the business as suggested by my hon. Friend had been employed this motion would not have been disposed of on that day. I have also made, if I may mention it, a representation to the President whether I can finish the Bill by sitting longer hours. It was felt that under the Standing Orders it would not be possible.

" For my part, I have made every possible attempt on previous occasions to see that the dilatory motions are dealt with and the Bill referred to a Select Committee if necessary, so that it may be finally passed in this session, and I do feel it is rather uncharitable on the part of the Opposition now to come out with a charge and say that I am rushing the legislation through this House without giving due consideration to the other point of view.

" Another point I have to notice is this. Apart from the speeches of my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Dr. Subbarayan, the Leader of the Opposition, I find the gist of the other speeches is that there are many political motives underlying this Bill. They have spoken against the very principles contained in this Bill. If that is the view of hon. Members, I am sure it would not be consistent for them to move that this Bill should be referred to a Select Committee. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan particularly said that he was opposed to the very principle of the Bill. While they are opposed to the principles of this legislation, I do not see any point in their wanting to refer such a Bill to a Select Committee. When a measure is referred to a Select Committee, it is the accepted constitutional practice that the principle of the measure is accepted ; only in such cases it is referred to a Select Committee. However, I am not still convinced from the way in which some of the speakers have approached this question, that they have really considered the Bill on its merits. If to-day I was compelled to bring forward this motion that the Bill be taken into consideration at once, it is only the Members of the Opposition who have given notice of dilatory motions that must thank themselves for it, and I hold them definitely responsible. Otherwise, the Bill would have gone to a Select

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Committee even in January last. Now, as there was no time to dispose of those dilatory motions and secondly as I did not want to tie my hands by the Bill being carried over to the next session of the Council, I could not help moving a motion that the Bill be taken into consideration at once. Even on the last occasion, I thought it would be wise not to take up the Bill; because if a motion was half discussed and left there, the question could not be disposed of during the present budget session of the Council. Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder first said that the Bill was given notice of even in June 1934 and that there was no urgency about it, and in the same breath he accuses me of not giving notice of the Bill in the last session of the Council. It was not the intention on the part of the Government to rush through things. The original Bill was published in the *Fort St George Gazette* of the 20th July 1934. Since, elections in four districts have been completed and so when the Bill was proposed to be introduced in January last, it was found necessary to carry out some necessary changes in the Bill. That has taken time and so it was not possible to publish this Bill in the Gazette more than four or five days before the meeting. So, while declining any responsibility for the delay in the passage of this Bill to which some of my hon. Friends themselves are responsible, I have been compelled to-day to make this motion. However, I should like to say this. If it is the hope of some of my hon. Friends that this Bill could be improved in the Select Committee stage, on the assumption that the principles of this legislation are acceptable and have been accepted and receive general support on all sides of the House, in deference to the wishes of my hon. Friends, I do not wish to appear to be unreasonable, and I have no objection to accept the motion for reference of the Bill to a Select Committee, provided an instruction is given by this House that the Select Committee Report be presented to the Council on Tuesday the 26th of February."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—"Sir, whatever the nature of the previous motion might have been, I must say that this motion is not at all dilatory. I have also expressly said that the hon. Members of this House will do their best to co-operate with the Hon. Minister in seeing that this Select Committee finishes its business as quickly as possible to enable the Council to pass this legislation as early as possible. Then, Sir, the Hon. Chief Minister went a little out of his way and said that in this House a lot of time was taken up by moving a number of unnecessary adjournments or amendments. Sir, may I just tell him that the Hon. Chief Minister as head of the Transferred half with a strong voting strength behind him and with the new Whip of his Party could have at any time applied for closure and have seen that the business of the House was carried through more quickly, so that this piece of legislation could have been reached? But the Hon. Minister did not do so, and now he accuses hon. Members of the House for taking a lot of time in dealing with dilatory motions as he calls them. I think I am entitled to accuse him as an accomplice and an abettor in this matter of prolonging the business of the House. If he was

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really interested in seeing that business was done in as short a time as possible, it was in his power to see that the business was not unnecessarily delayed. On the other hand, he did nothing of the sort, and now he complains probably for want of better argument in support of his motion. The Hon. Minister referred to certain hon. Members that they smelt a political motive in this matter. Personally, I can say that I did not refer to anything of that sort. What I referred to is that there was a tendency in recent times for misinterpreting the Act in the working of it passed by this House; the true spirit of the Act is not taken into account. With that object in view, I referred to the power used by the Government in the matter of appointing commissioners to municipalities and in the matter of nominations to the bifurcated district boards."

The motion was put and carried.

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" With your permission, Sir, I beg to move that it be an instruction to the Select Committee that the Report of the Select Committee be presented to the Council at its meeting on the 26th February 1935."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" The Select Committee has not yet been constituted. How can an instruction be given to a committee which has not come into existence? "

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" When a motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee has been made and accepted, I think any Member is quite at liberty to move for an instruction to the Select Committee even though the composition of the Select Committee has not been decided upon. This motion can go through meanwhile."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I second the motion."

The motion was put and carried.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Under Standing Order 39 (2) I move that the leave of the House be granted to refer the Bill to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members :—

(1) Mr. T. B. Russell.
(2) The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
(3) Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
(4) Mr. M. Devadasan.
(5) Rao Bahadur B. P. Sesha Reddi Garu.
(6) Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
(7) Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
(8) Mr. W. K. M. Langley.
(9) Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
(10) Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
(11) Mr. V. T. Arasu.
(12) Mr. A. B. Shetty.

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(13) Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder.
(14) Mr. M. S. Sreshta.
(15) The Raja of Khallikote.
(16) The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili (The Mover)."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOWNDER :—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Friday the 22nd February 1935.

XI.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 1.[a] *Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Accounts of* 1932–33.

* 2.[a] *Appropriation Accounts of the Government of Madras for* 1932 33 *and the Report of the Accountant-General thereon.*

† 3.[b] *G.O. No.* 121, *L. & M., dated* 12*th January* 1934, *exempting the members of the Southern Provinces Mounted Rifles Auxiliary Force (India) from payment of tax for their motor vehicles.*

† 4.[c] *G.O. No.* 258, *Revenue, dated* 1*st February* 1935, *regarding re-settlement in southern taluks in Salem district and* 26 *villages of Musiri taluk in Trichinopoly district.*

* 5.[d] *List of posts on Rs.* 500 *per mensem and above created during the quarter ending* 31*st December* 1934.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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* Laid on the table on 30th January 1935. † Sent by post.

a Published separately.
b Printed as Appendix XV on page 123 infra.
c Printed as Appendix XVI on pages 124–137 infra.
d printed as Appendix XVII on pages 138–139 infra.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 606 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 15 supra.]

(1)

Name of the reserves under Forest Department.	Extent.
	ACS.
Bundry	17,174·73
Bundry extension	442
Gunda	5,976·05
Gunda extension	2,570·93
Somalapuram	2,328·05
Somalapuram South extension	226·36
Sivapuram	8,805·42
Sivapuram extension	6,081·88
Kuppagal reserved forest	2,021·48
Do. addition	527
Banavasi (part)	1,315
Moka plantation (part)	718·84

Names of the reserves under Forest Panchayats.	Extent.
	ACS.
Bellary taluk—	
Mincheri	6,015
Rayadrug taluk—	
Bellary	10,366
Rayadrug	5,461
Mallapuram	1,530
Aduguppa	640
Hirchal	2,737
Dharmapuri	5,262
Bondankallu	2,246
Udegolam	424
Konthanapalli	926
Siruguppa taluk—	
Kanchagara Collagallu	1,323
Alur taluk—	
Bilchalu	838
Neraniki	9,892
Holalagondi	764
Adoni taluk—	
Tungabhadra	1,656
Halvi	645
Sulakeri	441
Kadimetla A and C	2,036
Banavasi	2,148
Kotekallu	1,981
Peddakadabur	1,645
Chinnakadabur	679
Dibbanakal } Dibbanakal extension }	1,060
Ganikal	813
Isivi (portion)	869
Adoni West and Addition (portion)	1,566
Navalikallu	799
Hospet taluk—	
Joga A and B	3,395
Joga C	1,462
Joga North-west	2,768
Papinayakanahalli	344
Billekallu	13,807
Billekallu West	2,782
Bukkasagaram	6,636
Hospet taluk—*cont.*	
Darogi foreshore	1,852
Hospet	3,281
Chilakanahatti	799
Tirumalapuram Sandal-wood area	618
Tornagal and extension	1,524
Metriki	5,141
Marutla	3,222
Do. North-east extension	901
Ubbalagondi	868
Do. North extensions	779
Do. extension	1,273
Kodalu	1,275
Chikkantapuram	1,757
Nandibanda	5,105
Hadagalli taluk—	
Chintrapalli North	974
Do. South	1,158
Koilargatta } Do. extension }	2,341
Tumbanakeri	1,940
Sogi North	404
Do.	68
Kudligi taluk—	
Bennikallu	7,847
Chiribi	4,380
Do. extension	5,383
Sunkadakallu	6,188
Do. East	620
Do. North-west.	457
Do. South-west.	6,371
Do. East extension	792
Banivikallu	2,936
Do. North-east extension.	1,557
Jaramali	3,386
Nimbalagiri	2,351
Do. North	298

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Names of the reserves under Forest Panchayats.	Extent.
	ACS.
Kudligi taluk—cont.	
Nimbalagiri West	641
Hosahalli	3,583
Jummunobanahalli ..	7,476
Hulikunta	3,672
Shidegal A	3,179
Do. B	1,096
Do. C	5,308
Ramadurgam	2,079
Kakuppi	8,094
Do. North-east extension	1,504
Do. South-east extension	454
Keriyaginahalli	3,089
Choranur	5,220
Gudekota	4,502
Do. extension ..	1,642
Halasagaram	5,620
Genda Bommanahalli ..	1,293
Appayyanahalli	2,376

Names of the reserves under Forest Panchayats.	Extent.
	ACS.
Kudligi taluk—cont.	
Sheliyappanahalli ..	4,204
Gollalingammanahalli ..	1,411
Tonasigeri	1,282
Tummaragudi	4,517
Harpanahalli taluk—	
Jagikalgutta	10,365
Jattinakatta	13,439
Do. South ..	1,252
Do. North-east ..	725
Uchangidurgam	4,581
Alagilavada .. .. } Do. extension .. }	3,892
Nilagunda	1,912
Thoganikatti	3,942
Hyarada	16,854
Sogi	5,222
Do. North-west ..	301
Do. South	256
Sogi main	2,098

(2)

Statement showing the Forest Panchayats in the Bellary district with financial particulars, etc.

Name of reserve.	Name of panchayat or panchayats managing the reserve.	Lease amount payable by each panchayat.	Expenditure of each panchayat. 1931–32.			1932–33.			1933–34.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)			(5)			(6)		
		RS.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
	BELLARY TALUK.										
Mincheri	Mincheri	160	736	9	6	752	4	0	751	4	0
	Nemakal (Rayadrug taluk)	110	306	0	0	326	3	0	331	7	8
	RAYADRUG TALUK.										
Bellary	Hirehal Siddapuram ..	465	1,096	4	6	1,009	3	9	888	13	3
	Halakundi	80	241	5	6	205	15	0	208	3	0
	Vitlapuram (Hospet taluk)	160	401	10	0	387	2	0	371	7	6
Rayadrug	Rayadrug	100	464	8	9	846	4	0	495	1	10
	Mallapuram	47	148	4	9	163	1	0	170	0	8
	Gollapalle	80	275	14	8	278	6	4	262	10	0
Mallapuram	Rayadrug		(Shown above.)								
	Mallapuram		(Do.)								
Aduguppa	Gollapalli		(Do.)								
Hirehal	Hirehal	120	339	4	4	343	6	8	342	14	0
Dharmapuri	T. Veerapuram	60	206	11	2	204	11	10	210	11	2
	Vadrahonnur	86	244	1	0	302	4	0	207	0	6
Bondankallu	Bethibhavivanka	70	314	13	0	293	15	6	387	8	0
Udegolam .. .. .. } Konthanapalli .. .. .. }	Konthanapalli	60	165	0	0	114	0	0	222	12	0
	SIRUGUPPA TALUK.										
Kanchagara Collagallu ..	Holalagondi (Alur taluk)	55	324	7	9	325	1	8	257	4	0
	ALUR TALUK.										
Bilchal	Bolagota	55	..			..			150	9	0
Neraniki	Arikera	45	281	2	0	221	5	0	265	9	8
	Neraniki	60	386	3	2	282	5	0	151	8	0
	Yellarthi	25	166	4	6	177	8	8	178	0	9
	Saluvai	130	474	12	6	322	10	0	266	0	8
		..*	308	13	6	..			246	15	6
Holalagondi ..			(Shown under Siruguppa taluk.)								

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Name of reserve.	Name of panchayat or panchayats managing the reserve.	…case amount payab e by each panchayat.	Expenditure of each panchayat. 1931–32.			1932–33.			1933–34.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)			(5)			(6)		
		RS.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
	ADONI TALUK.										
Tungabhadra	Tungabhadra	65	160	6	6	248	6	0	197	4	0
Halvi	Halvi	17	?34	14	0	230	2	6	104	9	0
Jubkeri											
Kadimetla A & C	Kadimetla	50	183	12	0	268	5	0	247	15	0
Banavasi	Banavasi	50	278	15	5	296	7	9	316	2	0
Kotekallu	Kotekallu	140	969	8	11	578	3	5	1,008	11	9
Peddakadubur											
Chinnakadubur											
Dibbanakal	Dibbanakal	15	182	7	4	185	8	0	164	1	9
Dibbanakal extension ..											
Ganekal	Guddadahosahalli	25	131	2	0	41	3	9	163	5	3
Isivi (portion)	Isivi	140	327	12	0	342	15	0	696	11	8
Adoni west and addition (portion)	Do.		(Shown above.)								
Navalikallu	Ballikal	220	462	11	6	646	14	0	196	11	0
	HOSPET TALUK.										
Joga A and B	Papinayakanahalli ..	40	268	1	0	242	10	0	266	11	6
	Joga	220	656	15	3	750	7	3	628	3	3
Joga C	Joga		(Shown above.)								
Joga north-west	Joga		(Do.)								
	Dharmasagar	120	300	8	0	314	0	0	361	6	0
	Gadiganur	156	460	8	5	511	6	4	470	4	1
Papinayakanahalli	Papinayakanahalli ..		(Shown above.)								
Billekallu	Do. ..		(Do.)								
	Dharmasagar		(Do.)								
	Gadiganur		(Do.)								
	Kamalapuram	155	500	1	6	490	13	9	418	2	0
	Uppanahalli	70	858	13	0	271	13	6	306	1	0
	Daroji	170	865	0	7	295	13	3	311	12	8
Billekallu west	Papinayakanahalli ..		(Shown above.)								
	Kamalapuram		(Do.)								
	Ingaligi	55	167	1	0	181	8	10	254	5	0
Bukkasagaram	Kamalapuram		(Shown above.)								
	Venkatapuram	70	368	14	6	301	8	0	445	9	0
	Kanvi Thimmapuram ..	55	272	13	9	254	13	9	237	1	0
Daroji Foreshore	Tornagallu	213	683	3	0	609	13	6	731	3	0
Hospet	Hospet	85	443	9	0	325	0	0	345	0	0
Chilakanahatti	Chilakanahatti	60	286	1	0	217	5	0	297	8	6
Thimmalapuram sandalwood area.											
Tornagal and extension ..	Tornagallu		(Shown above.)								
Metriki	Metriki	380	852	9	6	875	12	9	792	0	3
Marutla	Malapuram	200	684	3	1	664	11	7	664	5	0
Marutla north-east extension.											
Ubbalagondi	Ubbalagondi	105	310	15	9	281	3	6	349	13	0
Ubbalagondi north extensions.											
Ubbalagondi extension ..	Chikkantapuram	80	245	9	6	293	3	3	258	2	9
Kodalu											
Chikkantapuram	Do.		(Shown above.)								
Nandibanda	Halagapuram (Hadagalli sub-taluk)	150	490	10	0	494	11	9	568	0	3
	HADAGALLI TALUK.										
Chintrapalli north	Chintrapalli	70	301	6	0	292	0	7	288	8	6
Do. south											
Kollarghatta	Kollarghatta	60	187	15	0	159	0	9	215	6	0
Kollarghatta extension ..											
Tumbasakeri	Hire Hadagalli	80	186	13	3	186	5	0	179	8	9
Sogi north	Sogi	70	243	0	0	270	4	0	164	14	0
Do.	Nagathi Basapuram (Harpanahalli taluk) ..		(Shown under Harpanahalli taluk.)								

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Name of reserve. (1)	Name of panchayat or panchayats managing the reserve. (2)	Lease amount payable by each panchayat. (3)	Expenditure of each panchayat. 1931–32. (4)			1932–33. (5)			1933–34. (6)		
		RS.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
	KUDLIGI TALUK.										
Bennikallu	Boppalapuram	85	322	9	8	397	12	9	344	0	0
	Bennikallu	150	336	0	0	320	0	0	276	0	0
Chiribi .. .. Chiribi extension	Chiribi	125	295	14	2	302	14	0	284	6	0
	Gajapuram	110	304	9	0	268	11	0	144	9	0
	Kottwe	180	511	12	0	573	1	0	412	5	0
Sunkadakallu	Mangapuram	260	470	9	6	500	12	6	572	0	0
Sunkadakallu east .. .. Do. north-west .. Do. south-west ..	Sunkadakallu	210	404	11	0	400	10	3	452	13	0
Sunkadakallu east extension ..	Suladahalli	200	440	8	0	474	4	0	501	8	0
Banvikallu .. .. .. Banvikallu, north-east extension.	Banvikallu	300	513	7	0	570	11	0	626	4	0
Jaramali	Chikkobonahalli	210	393	14	0	407	0	0	455	12	0
Nimbalagiri .. .. .. Do. north .. .. Do. west	Nimbalagiri	100	482	12	8	349	6	0	389	12	0
Hosahalli	Hosahalli	142	342	2	0	508	0	0	420	8	0
Jummanobanahalli	Jummanobanahalli ..	260	542	10	0	615	14	0	514	8	0
	Gundumunugu	170	563	0	0	301	0	0	374	0	0
Hulikunta	Hulikunta	200	345	11	0	416	6	0	393	6	0
Shidegal A .. .. .. Do. B .. .. .. Do. C	Ramadurgam	220	609	5	2	621	12	0	404	12	0
	Shidegal	255	720	4	9	717	3	1	672	6	9
Ramadurgam	Ramadurgam	(Shown above.)									
Kakuppi .. .. .. *Kakuppi, north-east extension.* Kakuppi, south-east extension.	Kakuppi	210	493	4	0	546	11	0	182	2	0
	Sovenahalli	250	489	11	3	469	6	0	463	0	0
Keriyaginahalli	Hire Keriyaginahalli ..	200	423	15	9	347	7	0	387	0	0
Choranur	Choranur	160	447	2	9	456	7	0	203	9	11
Gudekota .. .. .. Do. extension	Gudekota	150	426	11	4	269	8	0	289	8	0
Halasagaram	Do.	150	489	4	11	318	7	4	266	4	0
Genda Bommanahalli ..	Shidegal	(Shown above.)									
Appayyanahalli	Appayyanahalli	100	225	0	0	160	0	0	177	2	0
Sheliyappanahalli	*Sheliyappanahalli*	50	192	10	0	188	12	0	240	5	0
Gollalingammanahalli ..	Gollalingammanahalli ..	20	108	0	0	60	0	0	60	10	0
Tousigeri	Tousigeri	14	102	12	0	70	8	0	61	15	3
Tummaragudi	Jiginahalli	130	404	3	3	403	8	3	251	9	2
	HARPANAHALLI TALUK.										
Jagikalgutta	Kanvihalli	65	214	3	3	176	2	3	169	15	6
	Masavanakallahalli ..	70	293	13	5	187	8	6	209	9	6
	Chigateri	60	263	0	6	285	12	1	244	15	0
	Nichapuram	85	227	8	6	248	10	6	227	10	6
Jattinagatta .. .. .. Do. south .. .. Do. north-east .. Uchangidurgam	Nichavanahalli	140	679	2	8	417	7	10	389	1	6
	Bendigeri	40	239	9	0	228	13	0	287	0	0
	Kyarakatti	90	468	0	3	383	8	0	388	9	3
	Kanchikeri	70	424	0	6	253	9	0	330	5	0
	Uchangidurgam	55	421	0	2	209	4	0	215	0	0
Alagilavada .. .. .. Do. extension .. Nilagunda	Alagidavada	185	824	11	3	253	10	0	347	0	0
	Kadathi	50	308	14	6	285	11	6	229	8	0
Thoganikatti	Thoganikatti	110	288	6	0	284	10	0	285	2	6
Hyavada	Hyarada	126	327	9	0	312	4	9	274	10	10
	Dasarahalli	55	155	4	0	219	14	0	149	14	0
	Harakanahal	65	171	0	0	165	0	0	171	10	3
	Hulikatti	45	149	1	6	151	11	6	137	6	3
	Halavagas	148	484	0	0	352	1	0	252	2	0
	Arasanahal	80	173	12	9	195	12	0	192	5	9
Sogi .. .. .. Sogi north-west .. .. Sogi south .. .. .. Sogi main	Adavimallanakeri	35	181	6	0	120	4	3	113	9	6
	Nagathi Basapuram ..	200	480	8	6	392	11	0	455	7	3
	Sogi (Hadagalli sub-taluk).	(Shown under Hadagalli sub-taluk.)									

APPENDIX II.

[*Vide* answer to *question* No. 607 asked *by* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 16 supra.]

Statement of the amount of tax collected under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, *on buses plying for hire in each district for the third quarter* 1934–35.

District.	Amount of tax. RS.	A.	District.	Amount of tax. RS.	A.
1 Ganjam	6,210	0	15 South Arcot	10,128	8
2 Vizagapatam	11,016	8	16 Tanjore	26,230	8
3 East Godavari	14,452	8	17 Trichinopoly	19,190	8
4 West Godavari	9,927	0	18 Madura	23,933	0
5 Kistna	17,332	8	19 Ramnad	13,311	0
6 Guntur	18,623	0	20 Tinnevelly	24,853	0
7 Nellore	10,349	8	21 Coimbatore	40,161	0
8 Cuddapah	5,349	0	22 The Nilgiris	8,866	8
9 Anantapur	7,204	8	23 Salem	29,425	0
10 Bellary	11,979	8	24 South Kanara	18,064	8
11 Kurnool	6,506	0	25 Malabar	32,701	4
12 Chingleput	4,855	0	26 Madras City	46,996	0
13 Chittoor	9,851	0			
14 North Arcot	17,775	0	Total	4,45,091	12

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 608 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 17 supra.]

Statement I.

Showing particulars of concessions granted under the Loans and Land Revenue in the Bellary district in faslis 1329 to 1343.

Fasli.	Amount of loans advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act.	Amount of loans advanced under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.	Amount of principal suspended under the Land Improvement Loans Act.	Amount of principal suspended under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.	Amount of interest suspended under the Land Improvement Loans Act.	Amount of interest suspended under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1329 (1919-20)	34,525	45,310	79	1,127	104	413
1330 (1920-21)	1,38,922	99,660	3,012	2 738	1,587	1,111
1331 (1921-22)	2,77,676	4,68,774	..	..	..	..
1332 (1922-23)	1,13,540	76,140	1,808	5,020	827	1,090
1333 (1923-24)	5,06,910	4,74,790	5,079	15,465	4,377	6,547
1334 (1924-25)	92,000	1,45,960	20,876	56,093	13,081	19,358
1335 (1925-26)	23,555	32,355	55,211	1,08,523	50,194	59,218
1336 (1926-27)	5,21,183	2,45,866	42,581	2,04,155	6[illegible],202	1,13,021
1337 (1927-28)	3,43,816	61,033	1,15,148	1,67,590	91,472	76,311
1338 (1928-29)	12,095	7,417	2,97,145	1,54,357	1,03,681	60,657
1339 (1929-30)	4,995	15,508	13,150	28,604	4,955	8,701
1340 (1930-31)	7,085	10,850	25,260	30,380	7,521	5,101
1341 (1931-32)	11,515	70,525	2,00,306	1,96,736	35,565	23,387
1342 (1932-33)	15,615	33,125	1,67,059	1,68,616	25,607	18,117
1343 (1933-34)	19,650 *		4,84,621 *		61,795 *	

* Includes particulars of a loan granted by the Director of Industries.

Fasli.	Amount of principal remitted under the Land Improvement Loans Act.	Amount of principal remitted under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.	Amount of interest remitted under the Land Improvement Loans Act.	Amount of interest remitted under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.	Amount of land revenue and cesses. Suspended.	Amount of land revenue and cesses. Remitted.
	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1329 (1919-20)	..	..	..	..	..	774
1330 (1920-21)	55	43	15	16	4,52,400	1.859
1331 (1921-22)	..	84	..	13	..	3,987
1332 (1922-23)	400	55	..	5	77,445	2,999
1333 (1923-24)	..	..	..	..	2,15,460	62,560
1334 (1924-25)	181	41	33	3	..	79,771
1335 (1925-26)	..	..	..	..	..	14,204
1336 (1926-27)	8	166	1	..	7,68,335	1,293
1337 (1927-28)	85	108	6	19	..	674
1338 (1928-29)	68	81	8	9	1,81,182	1,83,241
1339 (1929-30)	1,668	1,245	28	344	11,598	63,895
1340 (1930-31)	3,537	89	247	6	1,86,557	542
1341 (1931-32)	120	301	8	45	56,060	1,32,205
1342 (1932-33)	..	31	..	..	1,39,948	2,39,197
1343 (1933-34)	131		11			

Statement II.

(i)

Statement showing the total cost of famine relief operations in the Bellary district during the years when famine-relief works were undertaken.

Year.	Public works relief.	Civil relief.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
1921–22	5,42,299	29,912	5,72,211
1924	51,073	Nil.	51,073
1931–32	1,14,955	23,956	1,38,911

(ii)

Statement showing amount spent by way of gratuitous relief.

Year.	Amount given to dependents on works.	In villages.
	RS.	RS.
1921–22	62,108	18,686
1924	3,851	..
1932	5,971	..

(iii)

Statement showing the amounts spent by the Government as grants for the expansion of Local Board works in the Bellary district.

Year.	Amounts given to Bellary *District Board.*	Amount given to Adoni *Taluk Board.*
	RS.	RS. A. P.
1926–27	11,549	17,209 0 0
1927–28	2,29,430	Nil.
1931–32	58,818	8,017 3 0
1932–33	99,247	5,277 0 0

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 619 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 23 supra.]

Letter from Kumararaja M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad, B.A., M.L.C., Councillor, Corporation of Madras, to the Mayor of Madras, Corporation of Madras, dated Madras, 15th June 1934.

I beg to resign my membership as Councillor of the Corporation of Madras.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 620 asked by Mr. C. Indrayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 24 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 2612 (34-S), L. & M., dated 28th May 1934.

READ—the following papers:—

From the President, District Board, West Godavari, No. 1894/33, dated the 5th August 1933.

From the President, District Board, West Godavari, No. 1894/33, dated the 21st March 1934.

Order—Ms. No. 2612 (34-*S*), *L. & M., dated 28th May* 1934.

The Government approve the proposal of the West Godavari District Board for the appointment of a special officer to investigate and report on the question of the improper expenditure of the board's funds in connexion with the public works undertaken by the board since it was first constituted. As none of the District Board Engineers now in service can conveniently be spared for the proposed investigation, the Government have selected M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur T. K. T. Viraraghavachariyar Avargal, retired District Board Engineer, for the purpose. In view of his previous experience and knowledge of local conditions, the Government consider that Mr. Viraraghavachariyar is particularly well qualified to conduct the investigation.

2. Mr. Viraraghavachariyar has expressed his willingness to undertake the work on a remuneration of Rs. 850 a month and travelling allowances on the scale admissible to a Government servant of similar status. The district board is accordingly advised to sanction the creation of a post of special officer on the pay and allowances specified above and to appoint Mr. Viraraghavachariyar to the post. The appointment may be sanctioned for a period of three months subject to renewal for a further period if found necessary.

3. The results of the investigation should be communicated to the Government in due course.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To the President, District Board, West Godavari.
,, M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur T. K. T. Viraraghavachariyar Avargal.
,, the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
,, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
,, the Collector of West Godavari.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 621 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 26 supra.]

Statement showing the names, etc., of municipal councils superseded during the years 1932, 1933 and 1934.

Year.	Serial number.	Name of Municipal Council superseded.	When superseded.	Grounds for supersession.	Name of Chairman at the time of supersession.
1932				Nil.	
1933	1	Chidambaram.	From 7th February 1933 for two years.	Extremely unsatisfactory state of the administration for long time past, prevalence of faction, want of a sense of responsibility to the rate-payers and general incompetence of the Council to perform the duties imposed on it by law.	M.R.Ry. A. Venugopal Pillai Avargal.
1933	2	Bezwada ..	From 25th April 1933 for two years.	Extremely unsatisfactory state of the administration and the prevalence of faction which rendered the Council incompetent to perform the duties imposed on it by law.	Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
1934	1	Nandyal ..	From 5th June 1934 for two years.	Serious and long-standing defects in the administration and the incompetence of the Council to perform the duties imposed on it by law.	M.R.Ry. K. Narasinga Rao Garu (this Chairman however resigned on the eve of the supersession of the Council and was succeeded by M.R.Ry. D. Subba Rao Garu).
1934	2	Trichinopoly ..	From 19th June 1934 for two years.	Abuse of the powers of the Council.	M.R.Ry. P. Ratnavelu Tevar Avargal.

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 622 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 26 supra.]

Statement showing the names, etc., of Chairmen of Municipal Councils removed by Government during the years 1932, 1933 and 1934.

Year.	Serial number and name of Chairmen removed.	Name of Municipal Councils.	Grounds for removal.
1932	1 Mr. C. Samuel Aaron.	Cannanore ..	Abuse of powers vested in him under the Madras District Municipalities Act.
	2 M. H. Azeez Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Gudiyattam ..	Wilful disobedience of the provisions of the Madras District Municipalities Act and abuse of powers vested in him under the Act.
	3 M.R.Ry. K. Subba Rao Pantulu Garu.	Bezwada ..	Wilful omission to carry out the provisions of the Madras District Municipalities Act and abuse of powers vested in him under the Act.
1933	1 M.R.Ry. Sankara Venka Rao Pantulu Garu.	Guntur	Deliberate disobedience of the provisions of the Madras District Municipalities Act and abuse of powers vested in him under the Act.
	2 M.R.Ry. C. Annamalai Mudaliyar Avargal.	Chittoor ..	A valid motion expressing want of confidence in the Chairman was passed by the Municipal Council under section 40-A of the Madras District Municipalities Act.
	3 M.R.Ry. B. Mahalakshmi Nayudu Garu.	Anakapalle ..	Do.
1934	1 M.R.Ry. P. Ratnavelu Tevar Avargal.	Trichinopoly ..	Abuse of powers vested in him under the Madras District Municipalities Act and wilful disobedience of the lawful orders of the Government.
	2 A. McLeish, Esq. ..	Ootacamund ..	Omission to carry out the lawful orders of Government and abuse of powers vested in him under the Madras District Municipalities Act.

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 627 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council, held on the 20th February 1935, page 30 supra.]

Statement showing the names, etc., of Presidents of Panchayat Boards removed from office during the year 1934.

1 Janab Mulla Shaik Davood Sahib Bahadur, President, Chennur Panchayat Board, Cuddapah district.
2 M.R.Ry. Poli Reddi, President, Mangadu Panchayat Board, Chittoor district.
3 M.R.Ry. M. V. Narasimha Raju, President, Undi Panchayat Board, West Godavari district.
4 Meer Kasam Ali Sahib Bahadur, President, Bhattiprole Panchayat Board, Guntur district.
5 Janab A. Kareem Sahib Bahadur, President, Dachepalli Panchayat Board, Guntur district.
6 M.R.Ry. D. Sundaram Pillai, President, Partibanur Panchayat Board, Ramnad district.
7 M.R.Ry. N. Chockalingam Pillai, President, Sattur Panchayat Board, Ramnad district.
8 M. Muhiddin Mira Ravuttar, President, Shermadevi Panchayat Board, Tinnevelly district.
9 M.R.Ry. Sankara Kavandar, President, Malayanur-Chekkadi Panchayat Board, North Arcot district.
10 M.R.Ry. N. Srinivasa Reddiyar, President, Sundarapatti Panchayat Board, Salem district.
11 M.R.Ry. Darisa Guruvayya Chettiyar, President, Kodur Panchayat Board, Cuddapah district.
12 M.R.Ry. A. Seshachala Mudaliyar, President, Nagalampattu Panchayat Board, South Arcot district.
13 M.R.Ry. Nagi Reddi Venku Reddi, President, Kaluvoya Panchayat Board, Nellore district.
14 M.R.Ry. M. Rangaswami Chettiyar, President, Maniyampatti Panchayat Board, Madura district.
15 M.R.Ry. Palni Kavandar, President, Sinnakampalaiyam Panchayat Board, Coimbatore district.
16 M.R.Ry. Putta Seshachalam Chetti Garu, President, Tarigonda Panchayat Board, Chittoor district.
17 M.R.Ry. Panalal, Temporary President, Arkonam Panchayat Board, North Arcot district.

APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to question No. 632 asked by Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 33 supra.]

Approximate saving or loss to each district board consequent on the adoption of revised scales of pay for secondary school staff.

District.	Estimated saving (−) or loss (+).	District.	Estimated saving (−) or loss (+).
	RS.		RS.
North Arcot	− 20,616	West Godavari	− 14,532
South Arcot	− 11,244	South Kanara	− 26,688
Bellary	− 10,296	Kistna	− 36,144
Chittoor	− 10,702	Kurnool	+ 1,500
Chingleput	+ 840	Malabar	− 16,584
Coimbatore	− 8,516	Nellore	− 10,368
Cuddapah	− 3,456	Ramnad	− 8,388
Ganjam	− 25,188	Tinnevelly	− 5,568
East Godavari	− 5,220		

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APPENDIX X.

[Vide answer to question No. 634 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 34 supra.]

G.O. No. 2715, P.H., dated 22nd November 1934.

READ—the following papers:—

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Salem, No. 22-C-2-1931, dated 28th December 1931.

From the Sanitary Engineer, No. 451-G, dated 29th September 1932.

From the Chief Engineer for Electricity, No. 330/31-6, dated 3rd November 1932.

From the Chief Engineer for Electricity, No. 330/31-7, dated 24th January 1933.

Order—No. 2715, *P.H., dated 22nd November* 1934.

In Memorandum No. 26857-3-E-1, P.H., dated 21st October 1931, the proposal submitted by the Sanitary Engineer for supplying water to the Salem town and to the villages en route from Mettur were communicated to the municipal council for remarks and the Chairman was requested to report which scheme the council desired to adopt and also to report definitely the maximum amount which the municipal council could contribute towards the cost of the scheme. In its resolution No. 968, dated 18th December 1931, the council approved of Scheme B under which it is proposed to supply water to the Salem Municipality and the villages en route by pumping water from Mettur Reservoir from the tail race of one of the turbines and using sand filters. The approximate capital cost of this scheme is estimated at Rs. 22 lakhs and the annual maintenance charges at Rs. 59,115. The maintenance charges for the new scheme includes a sum of Rs. 8,915 being charges for water drawn from the Mettur Reservoir and payable to the Cauvery-Mettur Project at Rs. 2,039 per 1,000 cubic yards. This rate is only provisional and the actual rate to be charged to the municipality will depend on the rate of water-cess in force in the Mettur Project area from time to time. The water supplied to the villages en route will be charged on the basis of actual consumption at Re. 1-4-0 per 1,000 gallons which has been agreed to by the district board.

2. As regards the financing of the scheme the council agreed to pay towards the capital cost of the scheme any proportion not exceeding 50 per cent which the Government may, after a sympathetic consideration of the case in all its aspects, deem fit to demand. The position taken up by the council is that when the investigation of the water-supply scheme was originally sanctioned in G.O. No. 705, P.H., dated 26th March 1930, the Government had approved of the scheme by which the municipality could generate its own power by means of hydraulic plant at an annual maintenance cost of Rs. 10,000, that the detailed

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investigation was initiated on that basis and that it is unreasonable for Government to go behind this approval and make a fresh proposal to buy electric power from them at a cost which it is impossible for the council to undertake. The Commissioner is informed that when orders were issued in G.O. No. 705, P.H., dated 26th March 1930, no decision had been arrived at regarding the financing of the scheme. On the other hand it was clearly stated in paragraph 3 of the above Government Order that the financing of the scheme would be further examined after the investigation report was received.

3. The Government have now carefully considered the relative merits of the proposal to run the water-works plant by Hydraulic power and by Electric power respectively and they observe that if the Hydraulic scheme is adopted for the headworks, the approximate capital cost of the whole scheme will amount to Rs. 25 lakhs as against Rs. 22 lakhs if the Electric scheme is decided upon. Further the Hydraulic scheme, if adopted, will be the first of its kind in this Presidency. It is not possible to arrive at a definite decision as to whether maintenance charges under the Hydraulic scheme would be really less than the corresponding charges under the Electric scheme. On an examination of the comparative figures it is observed that the Hydraulic scheme costs about the same as the Electric scheme.

4. The council also contends that it had good reasons to expect that the Government were inclined to sanction a grant of two-thirds of the cost of the scheme. On an examination of the financial position of the municipal council as explained in the note annexed to this memorandum they observe that the council can finance the scheme on the usual half-grant and half-loan basis and that there is no case for departing from this rule. They are therefore not prepared to sanction more than a half grant. As regards the loan of Rs. 11 lakhs required towards the council's share, the Government will be prepared as a special case, to extend the period of repayment to thirty years, interest being charged at the rate of $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent or such rate as may prevail at the time when the loan is taken.

5. In the above circumstances the Commissioner is requested to report whether the council is prepared to accept the proposals for financing the scheme on the half-grant and half-loan basis in accordance with the arrangements, referred to above, and if so, to submit a copy of the council's resolution on the subject at an early date.

ANNEXURE.

It has been ascertained from the Sanitary Engineer that if a special establishment is sanctioned it will take more than a year to get detailed plans and estimates prepared and sanctioned and that the execution of the scheme will take five to six years. The probable amount of expenditure in each year is estimated as noted below:—

	RS.		RS.
First year	4,50,000	Sixth year	92,000
Second "	5,24,000		
Third "	4,64,500	Total ..	22,28,000
Fourth "	4,64,500		
Fifth "	2,22,000		

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2. The Budget of the Council for 1934–35 has since been received and the present normal position of the water and drainage fund is shown below :—

	Water-supply.	Drainage.
Receipts.		
	RS.	RS.
Normal receipts from tax [other receipts (non-recurring) excluded].	46,890 (4½ per cent)	41,250 (3¾ per cent).
Total, Receipts ..	46,900 (in round sum)	41,300 (in round sum).

Expenditure on existing works.

	Water-supply.	Drainage.
Maintenance charges	22,890	11,200
Interest on and repayment of debt (consolidated) ..	17,500	6,140
Normal surplus or deficit	+ 6 510	+ 23,960
Amount transferred to capital	Nil.	25,000

Net surplus or deficit + 6,510 — 1,040.

The Council has taken credit for an income from 4½ per cent water tax, and 3¾ per cent drainage tax. The Council has not increased the tax by 1 per cent to 9 per cent with effect from 1st April 1933 as previously promised by it. The tax receipts shown are calculated from the total current demand of Rs. 91,220. In the above statement arrear collections are left out of account. If the Council takes a loan every year of the amount required to meet capital expenditure on drainage works and utilizes the available surplus in the drainage account to finance the water-supply scheme, the Council can transfer from the drainage account to the water-supply account a surplus of Rs. 23,900 decreasing every year roughly by Rs. 2,000—vide statement below :—

Drainage account.

	1935–36.	1936–37.	1937–38.	1938–39.	1939–40.	1940–41.	1941–42.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Receipt from drainage tax at 3¾ per cent	41,300	41,300	41,300	41,300	41,300	41,300	41,300
Present expenditure on maintenance and annuity on existing loans	17,400	17,400	17,400	17,400	17,400	17,400	17,400
Addition to debt charges on account of capital expenditure (Rs. 25,000) on open drains (at Rs. 2,000 per annum)	..	2,000	4,000	6,000	8,000	10,000	12,000
Surplus ..	23,900	21,900	19,900	17,900	15,900	13,900	11,900

3. The position of the water tax fund on the existing resources and modified with reference to the current year's budget will be as shown below if due provision is made for the discharge of loan of half the cost of the water-supply scheme. It is assumed that the loans are repayable in 30 years with interest at 4½ per cent.

Water-supply account.

	1935–36.	1936–37.	1937–38.	1938–39.	1939–40.	1940–41.	1941–42.	1942–43.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Water tax accounts receipts	46,900	46,900	46,900	46,900	46,900	46,900	46,900	46,900
Increase due to revision of tax registers	..	19,200	19,200	19,200	19,200	19,200	19,200	19,200
House connexions ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20,400
District Board contribution	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22,500
Receipts—Total ..	46,900	66,100	66,100	66,100	66,100	66,100	71,000	1,14,000

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Expenditure.

	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Existing expenditure on maintenance	22,890	22,890	22,890	22,890	22,890	22,890	22,890	22,890
Interest on and repayment of existing debt (consolidated)	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500	17,500
Annuities on loans for the *new scheme* (30 years at 4¼ per cent)	..	..	14,500	31,060	45,750	60,430	67,440	70,350
Maintenance of new scheme	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59,115
Expenditure, total ..	40,390	40,390	54,890	71,450	86,140	1,00,820	1,07,830	1,69,855
Surplus or deficit ..	6,510	25,710	11,210	5,350	20,040	34,720	36,730	55,855

—	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Surplus or deficit in water-tax account.	*6,510*	*25,710*	*11,210*	*5,350*	*20,040*
Surplus in drainage account.	23,900	21,900	19,900	17,900	15,900
Net surplus or deficit in water and drainage account.	30,410	47,610	31,110	12,550	4,140
Accumulated surplus or balance in water and drainage account.	30,410	78,020	1,09,130	1,21,680	1,17,540
Additional tax required to meet deficit.	..	..	..	..	..
Total property tax ..	16½ per cent.	16½ per cent.	16½ per cent.	16½ per cent.	16½ per cent.

	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Surplus or deficit in water-tax account.	— 34,720	— 36,730	—55,855	—55,855	— 55,855	— 55,855
Surplus in drainage account.	13,900	11,900	9,900	7,900	5,900	3,900
Net surplus or deficit in water and drainage account.	— 20,820	— 24,820	—45,955	—47,955	— 49,955	— 51,955
Accumulated surplus or balance in water and drainage account.	96,720	71,890	25,935	—22,020	— 49,955	— 51,955
Additional tax required to meet deficit.	..	..	..	2 per cent.	4 per cent.	4¼ per cent.
Total property tax ..	16½ per cent.	16½ per cent.	16½ per cent.	18½ per cent.	20½ per cent.	20¾ per cent.

Credit is taken in the above statement for the transfer each year to the water-tax account of the surplus in the drainage account. It will be seen that the council can by hoarding past years' surplus manage at the existing rate of taxation (16½ per cent) until 1942-43. The council will have to raise the tax from 1943-44 by 2 per cent to 18½ per cent and from 1944-45 by 4 per cent to 20½ per cent and from 1945-46 onwards by 4¼ per cent to 20¾ per cent. An increase of the tax ultimately by 4¼ per cent may be found sufficient.

4. In the above circumstances the council can finance the water-supply scheme on the half grant half loan basis, besides providing the money required for the drainage

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Letter from the Commissioner, Salem Municipality, to the Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government (Public Health) Department, dated the 29th November 1934, No. 15-C2/33.

[*Subject*—Water-supply—Salem Municipality—From Mettur Dam.

Reference—G.O. No. 2715, P.H, dated 22nd November 1934.]

I submit herewith Resolution No. 1399, dated 29th November 1934, of the Salem Municipal Council in which the Council has agreed to the conditions specified in the Government Order.

ENCLOSURE

Salem Municipality.

Extract from the proceedings of the meeting of the Municipal Council, Salem, passed at its meeting held on 29th November 1934, M.C.R. No. 1399.

Read G.O. No. 2715, P.H., dated 22nd November 1934, asking the Commissioner to report if the Council is prepared to accept the proposals for financing the scheme on the half-grant and half-loan basis and to submit a copy of the Council's resolution *on the subject.*

NOTE.—The Government have after careful investigation and consideration of the subject decided to supply water to Salem Town from Mettur Dam if the Council agrees to the above proposals. They have calculated the total capital cost to be Rs. 22 lakhs and the annual maintenance charges as Rs. 50,115; they state that the Hydraulic scheme will be more costly than the Electric scheme. They find on an examination of the financial position of the Municipal Council that the Council can finance the scheme on the usual half-grant and half-loan basis and that there is no case for departing from this rule. As regards the loan of 11 lakhs required towards the Council's share the Government are prepared as a special case to extend the period of repayment to 30 years, interest being charged at 4½ per cent.

Resolution.

This Council expresses its grateful thanks to the Government for having decided to sanction the scheme for supplying drinking-water to Salem Town from Mettur Dam and requests that the Government will be pleased to expedite the scheme.

This Council further resolves to accept the proposals for financing the scheme on the half-grant and half-loan basis in accordance with the arrangements set forth in Government Order No. 2715, P.H., dated 22nd November 1934.

From the Chair—Carried unanimously.

S. A. AYYASWAMI CHETTIYAR,
Chairman.

APPENDIX XI.

[Vide answer to question No. 640 asked by Mr. V. T. Arasu at the *meeting of the Legislative* Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 37 supra.]

Serial number and name.	Approximate number of years of service in the workshop.	Daily wages before reduction.			Daily wages after reduction.		
		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
1 Chinnaswami	6	0	14	0	0	9	0
2 Yelumalai	10	0	12	0	0	8	6
3 Gopal Chetti	7	0	13	0	0	8	9
4 Varadarajulu	6	0	12	0	0	8	6
5 Viswanathan	5	0	13	0	0	9	0
6 Thiruvengadam	3½	0	14	0	0	9	0
7 Chellakutti	3½	0	14	0	0	8	9
8 Venga Reddi	3½	0	13	0	0	8	9
9 Raju Naicker	3½	0	13	0	0	8	9
10 Velu Chetti	3½	0	12	0	0	8	6
11 Thulukanam	3½	0	11	6	0	8	6
12 Kannayya	..	0	10	0	0	9	0

APPENDIX XII.

[Vide answer to question No. 644 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 39 supra.]

Annexure I.

Taluk.	Number of works.	Amount.	Taluk.	Number of works.	Amount.
		RS.			RS.
Anantapur	3	1,870	Hindupur	6	3,538
Kalyandrug	10	7,280	Madakasira	9	2,020
Gooty	2	730			
Dharmavaram ..	3	277	Total ..	60	34,667
Kadiri	19	8,447			
Penukonda	8	10,005			

Annexure II.

Anantapur	10	3,348	Kadiri	38	12,728
Kalyandrug	17	8,573	Penukonda	22	15,764
Gooty	6	1,788	Hindupur	24	10,565
Tadpatri	2	1,438	Madakasira	29	7,909
Dharmavaram ..	6	2,434			

APPENDIX XIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 646 asked by Mr. M. Devadasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th February 1935, page 41 supra.]

Statement showing the import of glass articles into the Madras Presidency.

	1931–32.		1932–33.		1933–34.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		RS.		RS.		RS.
1. Imports by sea from foreign countries—						
(a) Bangles	Not available.	3,61,505	Not available.	4,58,630	Not available.	2,59,975
(b) Beads and false pearls.	Cwt. 526	43,579	Cwt. 782	79,670	Cwt. 821	92,801
(c) Bottles and phials—						
Soda water bottles.	Gross. 5,080	1,22,831	Gross. 7,724	1,68,817	Gross. 2,428	68,469
(d) Other bottles ..	22,664	1,30,352	34,454	1,46,902	60,383	1,79,085
(e) Funnels, globes and glass parts of lamps.	Not available.	2,25,940	Not available.	1,94,785	Not available.	1,20,784
(f) Scientific glassware.	Do.	32,146	Do.	25,796	Do.	37,510
(g) Sheet and plate ..	sq. ft. 3,086,806	3,18,019	sq. ft. 3,850,568	4,18,050	sq. ft. 3,881,837	3,79,813
	Cwt. 31,914	..	Cwt. 38,089	...	Cwt. 38,290	..
(h) Tableware ..	Not available.	54,420	Not available.	93,060	Not available.	46,802
(i) Other glass ware ..	Do.	1,53,159	Do.	1,98,849	Do.	1,71,726
2. Imports by sea from Ports in India not British.	Do.	771	Do.	..	Do.	5,848
3. Imports by sea from other Provinces in India.	Do.	4,11,682	Do.	6,20,741	Do.	4,18,008
4. Imports by rail and river from other provinces and States in India.	Do.	Not available.	Do.	Not available.	Mds. 114,272	Not available.

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APPENDIX XIV.

[Vide item VI at page 57 supra.]

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 1932-33.

A

Excess under Grant III—Stamps—Reserved.

		RS.
Final Grant	.. .. ..	2,26,700
Actuals	.. .. ..	2,31,385
	Excess ..	4,685

The excess was 2·1 per cent of the grant and was the net result of excesses and savings under the various sub-heads in the grant.

The excess occurred mainly under 'Non-Judicial—Cost of stamps supplied from Central Stamp Stores' (Rs. 6,823) and under 'Judicial—Freight charges on stamps' (Rs. 1,656) set off partly by a saving under 'Judicial—Cost of stamps supplied from Central Stamp Stores' (– Rs. 3,438). The variations were mainly due to the system under which *Collectors get their supply of stamps direct from the Nasik Press on* quarterly and annual indents, and the Board of Revenue which is the controlling authority has to depend on the reports of Collectors which are due with the Board as early as the first week of January of each year. When these reports are sent, the requirements for the quarter April to June, for which supplies are received in March have to be estimated by Collectors and when the actuals are known, it is found too late to apply for an additional appropriation.

The Public Accounts Committee has recommended that the demand for the excess grant be moved in the Legislative Council.

B

Excess under Grant XXXIII—Pensions—Reserved.

		RS.
Final Grant	.. ..	63,07,800
Actuals	.. ..	63,22,470
	Excess ..	14,670

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The excess is only 0·2 per cent of the grant, but it was the net result of excesses and savings which occurred mainly under the following sub-heads in the grant :—

Sub-head of appropriation. (1)	Excess (+) or savings (—). (2)
	RS.
(i) *Superannuation and retired* allowances—Payments to Madras Government pensioners	+ 24,971
(ii) Superannuation and retired allowances—Payments on behalf of other Governments	+ 30,654
(iii) *Deduct* Recoveries of payments of pensions on behalf of other Governments	— 25,173
(iv) *Deduct* Amount on account of Commercial departments	— 9,905
(v) Commuted value of pensions—Payments to pensioners	— 5,919
(vi) Commuted value of pensions—Payments to other Governments	— 34,648
(vii) *Deduct* Commuted value of pensions recovered from other Governments ..	+ 36,881

The excesses were due to the following causes :—

Item (i).—On the basis of the monthly expenditure, a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,20,000 was obtained to meet excess expenditure anticipated on account of a larger number of retirements due to retrenchment of posts, but this was found slightly inadequate.

Item (ii).—The recoveries from other Governments of pensions paid in this Presidency on their behalf were first adjusted in the office of the Accountant-General under a misapprehension as deduction from expenditure under this sub-head, and the appropriations were regulated on the basis of the wrong figures given by the Accountant-General. The subsequent adjustment of the recoveries under the proper sub-head "*Deduct* recoveries of payments of pensions on behalf of other Governments" in the March supplemental accounts is the chief cause of the final excess.

Item (vii).—The recoveries are effected by the Accountant-General by book-adjustment. The original estimate and the modified appropriation were sanctioned on the basis of the amounts reported by the Accountant-General as likely to be recovered during the year. The excess could not be foreseen owing to the fluctuating nature of the transaction accounted for under this sub-head.

The Public Accounts Committee has recommended that the demand for the above excess grant be moved in the Legislative Council.

C

Excess under Grant XXXVIII—Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred.

	RS.
Final grant	9,08,100
Actuals	9,50,057
Excess ...	41,957

The excess is 4·6 per cent of the grant and was the result of excesses and savings under the various sub-heads included in the grant as shown below:—

Sub-head of appropriation.	Final appropriation.	Actual expenditure.	Excess (+) or savings (—).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
VI. Excise—			
Transferred	62,000	66,719	+ 4,719
Reserved (Agency)	200	34	— 166
VII. Stamps—Reserved	3,00,000	3,00,847	+ 847
VIII. Forest—Reserved	47,000	53,730	+ 6,730
XIII. Irrigation, etc., for which capital accounts are kept—Reserved.	5,400	4,911	— 489
XIV. Irrigation, etc., for which no capital accounts are kept—Reserved.	9,600	8,984	— 616
XVI. Interest—Reserved ..	39,000	35,956	— 3,044
XVIII. Jails and convict settlements—Reserved.	100	184	+ 84
XIX. Police—Reserved	7,300	7,031	— 269
XXI. Education—			
Transferred	7,500	7,536	+ 36
Reserved (Agency)	..	29	+ 29
XXII. Medical—Transferred.. ..	12,400	8,311	— 4,089
XXIII. Public Health—Transferred..	300	272	— 28
XXIV. Agriculture—Transferred ..	2,800	2,998	+ 198
XXV. Industries—Transferred ..	16,400	14,731	— 1,669
XXVI. Miscellaneous Departments—			
Reserved	13,600	8,597	— 5,003
Transferred	56,900	89,135	+32,235
XXX. Civil Works—			
Transferred	15,500	15,833	+ 333
Reserved (Agency)	1,500	1,158	— 342
XXXIII. Receipts in aid of superannuation—Reserved.	9,900	9,190	— 710
XXXIV. Stationery and Printing—Reserved.	700	1,027	+ 327
XXXV. Miscellaneous—Reserved ..	3,00,000	3,12,844	+ 12,844
Total ..	9,08,100	9,50,057	+ 41,957

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Excess occurred mainly under the heads "VI. Excise—Transferred," "VIII. Forest—Reserved," "XXVI. Miscellaneous departments—Transferred," and "XXXV. Miscellaneous Reserved." The following were the reasons for the excesses:—

(a) *VI. Excise—Transferred.*—The excess was due to the payment made in March 1933 to the Cochin Durbar on account of a claim put forward by the Durbar for refund of duty on spirituous medicinal preparations imported into the State direct from Calcutta in 1931–32. The claim was under consideration for a long time, and the Excise Commissioner did not anticipate that a decision on the subject would be reached and payment made in 1932–33. As the latest date for applications for additional appropriations was the 15th February 1933, additional appropriation was not applied for.

(b) *VIII. Forest—Reserved.*—The excess was due to certain adjustments made by the Accountant-General in March 1933 final accounts, to the rectification of a wrong credit in 1930–31 to "VIII. Forest" of certain revenue from timber, in respect of which intimation was received from the Accountant-General too late to apply for an additional appropriation, and generally to the variable nature of the refunds for which no forecast could be made with any degree of accuracy.

(c) *XXVI. Miscellaneous departments—Transferred.*—Owing to the amendment of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act in April 1932 and the liberalization of the rules regarding refunds of the tax, the appropriation was found insufficient and at the instance of the Commissioner of Police, a supplementary grant of Rs. 42,000 was obtained from the Legislative Council in March 1933. But even this eventually proved insufficient.

(d) *XXXV. Miscellaneous—Reserved.*—This head provides mainly for the refunds of lapsed deposits which are credited to Government in the first instance and refunded to the parties concerned when claimed subsequently. The expenditure under the head varies considerably from year to year and it is very difficult to form an accurate estimate either for the purposes of the budget or current control. A supplementary grant for Rs. 67,100 obtained from the Legislative Council and a further sum of Rs. 900 provided by reappropriation proved inadequate.

The Public Accounts Committee has recommended that the demand for the above excess grant be moved in the Legislative Council.

29th January 1935. H. G. STOKES.

APPENDIX XIV-A.

(Vide item VIII at page 71 supra.)

BILL No. 18 OF 1934.

A Bill further to amend the Madras Compulsory Labour Act, 1858.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

The Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill further to amend the Madras Compulsory Labour Act, 1858 (Bill No. 18 of 1934), has the honour to make the following report :—

2. The Bill was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*—

in English on the 9th October 1934,

in Kanarese on the 30th October 1934,

in Telugu and Hindustani on the 6th November 1934, and

in Tamil and Malayalam on the 13th November 1934.

3. The Select Committe met yesterday (25th January 1935) and to-day (26th January 1935) at the Committee room, for the purpose of considering the Bill. The amendments that the Bill seeks to make in the Madras Compulsory Labour Act, 1858, are two-fold, namely :—

(i) to include earth, stone and gunny bags among the materials for which a requisition may be made under section 5 of the Act; and

(ii) to take power to make a requisition for materials under the said section for the purpose, not only of repairing breaches, but also of preventing them.

The Committee considers that the amendments sought to be made are desirable, and it approves of them.

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4. A copy of the Bill as slightly amended by it, is attached. The Bill need not be re-published.

FORT ST. GEORGE, A. APPADURAI,
Dated the 26th January 1935. *Chairman of the Select Committee.*

BILL No. 18 OF 1934.

A Bill further to amend the Madras Compulsory Labour Act, 1858.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Madras
of 1858. Compulsory Labour Act, 1858, for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

AND WHEREAS the previous sanction of the Governor-General has been obtained to the passing of this Act;

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Madras Compulsory Labour (Amendment) Act, 1935.

2. For section 5 of the Madras Compulsory Labour
of 1858. Act, 1858, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

"5. It shall be lawful for heads of villages, on the requisition of the officer in charge of such works, as aforesaid, or in his absence, on the requisition of the tahsildar or in case of emergency when neither such officer nor the tahsildar is on the spot, of their own motion, to make requisitions upon the inhabitants of their villages for the supply of materials to wit, earth, stone, trees and leaves, bamboos, straw, gunny bags and the like, necessary for preventing or repairing breaches in the embankments of tanks, rivers and canals and to remove or seize, and, if necessary, to cut down such materials wherever they may be found, giving receipts for them in writing; such materials shall be paid for from the public treasury at the highest prices for which they

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are sold in the neighbourhood and in case damage is sustained by any person in consequence of the removal, seizure or cutting down of any such materials, compensation shall be made for such damage, the amount of which compensation shall, in case of dispute, be determined in the same manner as amounts payable under *section 6*. When the work for which such materials are used belongs to a private person, the amount advanced from the treasury shall be recoverable from him by the same means by which arrears of land revenue are recoverable."

APPENDIX XV.

[*Vide item XI (3) at page 99 supra*].

G.O. No. 121, L. & M., 12th January 1934.

READ—the following paper:—

From the Commander, Madras district, Bangalore, dated 11th December 1934, No. 9119-62-Q.

Order—No. 121, *L. & M., dated 12th January* 1934.

The appended notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette.*

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

T. B. RUSSELL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commander, Madras District, Bangalore, with covering letter.
,, Collector of Tinnevelly.
,, Commissioner of Police, Madras.
,, Inspector-General of Police, Madras.
,, *Finance Department.*
,, Law (General) Department.
,, Law (Drafting) Department.
,, Public (Military) Department.
,, Superintendent, Government Press (for publication of the notification in Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette* and to supply 200 copies to Council office.

APPENDIX.

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (I) of section 11 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931 (Madras Act III of 1931), the Governor acting with Ministers is hereby pleased to exempt from payment of the tax leviable under the said Act, motor vehicles belonging to the members of the Southern Provinces Mounted Rifles, Auxiliary Force (India), resident in Travancore, for the period of their stay in British territory in connexion with their annual camp at Kuttalam in February 1935.

APPENDIX XVI

[Vide item XI (4) at page 99 supra.]

G.O. No. 258, Revenue, 1st February 1935.

READ—the following paper:—

G.O. No. 1892, Revenue, dated 23rd September 1934.

From the Special Assistant Settlement Officer-in-charge, Revenue Settlement Party No. II, Salem, dated 27th November 1933, No. C.-2562/33.

* Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement), Press No. 92, dated 11th July 1934.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement), Mis. No. 4424, dated 8th December 1934.

* Printed in G.O. No. 1892, Revenue, dated 23rd September 1934.

Order—No. 258, *Revenue, dated* 1*st February* 1935.

The papers read above relate to the proposals of the Special Assistant Settlement Officer-in-charge of No. II Party, for the second resettlement of the southern taluks of the Salem district comprising the plains villages of Salem, Harur, Tiruchengodu, Omalur, Namakkal and Attur taluks and five villages of the Mettur taluk, and 26 villages of the Musiri taluk of the Trichinopoly district formerly included in the Namakkal taluk of the Salem district, which were last resettled in 1903–04. The second resettlement of this area which was due in fasli 1343 was postponed to fasli 1344 in G.O. No. 2214, Revenue, dated 21st October 1931.

2. The Special Assistant Settlement Officer's proposals for resettlement were published in English and in Tamil in the *Salem District Gazette* on 21st July 1934 and in the *Trichinopoly District Gazette* on 13th July 1934, and three months' time was allowed for the receipt of criticisms. The period of three months allowed expired on the 21st October 1934 in the case of the southern taluks of the Salem district and on the 13th October 1934 in the case of the 26 villages of the Musiri taluk of the Trichinopoly district. The Settlement Officer's proposals were laid on the table of the Legislative Council on the 22nd October 1934.

3. Altogether 1,240 representations were received from the ryots of the southern taluks of the Salem district, and one petition from one of the 26 villages of the Musiri taluk, Trichinopoly district. The Government have carefully considered the representations made.

4. Some of the memorialists contend that the time allowed for the consideration and criticism of the scheme report was insufficient. The usual period of three months was allowed from the date on which the

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scheme report was published. It is evident from the large number of the representations received and their detailed nature that there is no force in the contention raised, and the Government are unable to accept it.

5. It is further urged that, as it is likely that fresh councils will under the new constitution be brought into being next year, the resettlement of the area should be postponed. The Government have explained their position in this respect on more than one occasion in the Legislative Council. Certain attempts at land revenue legislation have already been made, but have proved unsuccessful and in view of the impending constitutional changes, the Government do not propose to take at this stage any further steps towards legislation on the settlement of land revenue. They do not, however, see any reason why, pending any such legislation or pending the constitution of the new Councils, the introduction of the resettlement in the area should be postponed. The object of resettlement is to ensure a fair distribution of the incidence of land revenue throughout the Presidency. Other districts have been resettled recently, and as the resettlement of the southern taluks of the Salem district and of the 26 villages of the Musiri taluk of the Trichinopoly district, is now due, the Government consider that it should be carried out, in accordance with the usual settlement principles.

6. One of the main contentions put forward is that the economic condition of the tract has not materially improved since the last resettlement, and in support of this contention it is urged that the ryots have not been able to pay even the existing assessment, that the cost of cultivation has increased, that the sale, lease, and mortgage values of land in recent years have decreased, and that the ryots are heavily indebted and have to borrow money for the payment of kist. The Government observe from the statistics furnished by the Special Assistant Settlement Officer in paragraphs 13–29 of the Scheme Report that the assessment has been paid without difficulty, and that there has been a substantial increase in the sale and lease values of land. It is clear from the Special Assistant Settlement Officer's report that indebtedness among the ryots is not high and that their general economic condition is such that a large proportion of them have been in a position to lend money to others. Of the amounts borrowed only a very small percentage was for the payment of assessment. The Government are satisfied from an examination of the several factors which indicate the economic development of the area under consideration in its relation to land revenue that the existing rates of assessment have not impeded the economic development of the area and that there has been a very obvious and substantial increase in the prosperity of the ryots.

7. The Government realize that the districts of Salem and Trichinopoly in common with other districts are suffering from the effects of economic depression. The fall in prices has, however, been general throughout the Presidency and the result of continuing the existing

rates of assessment in the area in question would be to perpetuate the advantage enjoyed by it at the expense of other districts of the Presidency, which have been resettled since the year in which the current resettlement of the area was introduced.

In these circumstances and in the light of the facts set out by the Special Assistant Settlement Officer and the Board of Revenue, the Government cannot find any justification for the postponement of the introduction of resettlement in the area under consideration. They accordingly proceed to pass orders on the proposals for the resettlement of the area.

8. The proposals of the Special Assistant Settlement Officer in respect of the following matters have been supported by the Board of Revenue and are approved:—

(1) Soil classification.

(2) Treatment of unoccupied dry lands.

(3) Classification of lands as "permanently improved."

(4) Compulsory composition of second-crop charge, and rate of composition therefor.

(5) Dry grouping.

(6) Reclassification of irrigation sources.

(7) Revision of classification fixed by the Revenue Department subsequent to the last resettlement.

(8) Baling remission.

(9) Kistbandi.

(10) Duration of the resettlement.

9. *Money rates.*—In paragraph 38 of the scheme report the Special Assistant Settlement Officer has recommended (*a*) that the rates for wet lands under the Cauvery channels and the Mangalam tank should be enhanced by 18¾ per cent, and (*b*) that the rates for wet lands under the second, third, fourth and fifth class irrigation sources (excluding the lands under the Mangalam tank) and on dry lands should be enhanced by 12½ per cent. The Government accept these proposals. They are of opinion that the proposed enhancement is moderate and that on the facts reported the maximum increase of 18¾ per cent would have been justified also for the lands mentioned in clause (*b*) above. There has lately no doubt been a general fall in the price of all agricultural produce, but even so, the prices which have recently prevailed in Salem show a considerable margin of excess—much exceeding 18¾ per cent—over the commutation prices on which the existing rates of assessment were fixed.

10. *Increment remission.*—In view of the present level of prices the Government propose, as a matter of grace, to grant to this area the same concessions in the matter of increment remissions as were allowed in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna.

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11. *Fixing of composition rates for dry lands converted to wet.*—In view of the existence of several double-crop rates against one single-crop taram, the Special Assistant Settlement Officer raises the question as to the rate which should be adopted in the case of a dry land newly transferred to wet. He suggests that the best arrangement would be to apply to the soil to be classified the highest rate noticeable against the taram appropriate to the land. The Board of Revenue, however, considers that the most equitable course would be to adopt the rate imposed on the adjacent land and if there are more than one, the highest of such rates. The Government accept the Board's proposal.

12. *Voluntary irrigation cess.*—The Board of Revenue has recommended that the irrigation cess may be levied as a separate item as hitherto, and the cess fund continued, power being reserved to enhance the cess if necessary, or to enhance the land assessment suitably if the levy of cess as a separate item is discontinued during the currency of the resettlement. The Government accept this recommendation. With regard to the representation made by some of the ryots that the voluntary irrigation cess is an additional burden on them, the Government observe that the cost of erecting and repairing the korambus is a special item of expenditure and has been met from time immemorial by a special contribution from those benefiting by them. The Government therefore consider that there is no reason to alter the system.

13. The Government await the receipt of the proposals for the revision of the ground rent and the water-cess referred to in paragraph 9 (*d*) of B.P. No. 92, Press, dated 11th July 1934.

14. The draft notification submitted by the Board of Revenue is approved and is appended to this order.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

H. R. Uzielli,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement).
„ Special Assistant Settlement Officer, II Party, Salem.
„ Government of India, Department of Education, Health and Lands (with C.L.) and with a copy of G.O. No. 1892, Revenue, dated 23rd September 1934.
„ Collectors of Salem and Trichinopoly.
„ Finance Department.
„ Secretary, Legislative Council (with 175 copies to be placed on the table of the Legislative Council).

Press.

APPENDIX.

NOTIFICATION.

I.—AREA AFFECTED.

The term of thirty years for which the existing rates of land assessment were sanctioned in respect of the undermentioned southern taluks of the Salem district and the 26 villages of the Musiri taluk of the Trichinopoly district expired at the end of fasli 1342 (1932-33). This period having, however, been extended by one year in G.O. No. 2214, Revenue, dated 21st October 1931, the resettlement of the above tract is due in fasli 1344 (1934-35). A revision of the rates and the conditions of assessment therein will be carried out with effect from that fasli, i.e., fasli 1344, in accordance with the orders issued in G.O. No. 258, Revenue, dated 1st February 1935.

(i) *Southern taluks of the Salem district*—

Salem.
Attur.
Namakkal.
Harur.

} Except hill villages and the three plains villages in the Salem taluk, named—
1 Puludikkuttai.
2 Malaiyalapatti.
3 Vellaiyampatti.

Tiruchengode.
Omalur.
Mettur (only five villages 'namely'—
1 Cholappadi.
2 Gonur.
3 Virakkalpudur.
4 Pottaneri Nallakavundanpatti.
5 Kolnayakkanpatti).

(ii) *Twenty-six villages of the Musiri taluk*—

1 Pillaipalaiyam.	14 Valasiramani.
2 Moruppatti.	15 Mahadevi.
3 Kargudi.	16 Anjalam.
4 Vadamalaipatti.	17 Pulancheri
5 Pillatturai.	18 Sukkalampatti.
6 Arayachchi.	19 Sangampattikombai, Part I.
7 Valaiyeduppu.	20 Sangampattikombai, Part II.
8 Serguli.	21 Pasarikombai.
9 Devanur.	22 Kallattukombai.
10 Peyattamparai.	23 Nallamattikombai.
11 Tattayangarpettai.	24 Puliyanjolaikombai.
12 Sarkar Urakkarai.	25 Pongalayikombai.
13 Jambumadai.	26 Rudrakshakombai.

II.—GENERAL POLICY.

2. The resettlement will be based mainly on the rise in the prices of the standard crops since the date of introduction of the current resettlement.

3. At the last resettlement, various allowances and deductions were made to arrive at the net income obtained by ryots; the same liberal deductions will be allowed at this resettlement also.

III. CLASSIFICATION OF SOILS.

4. (a) No general reclassification of soils will be made at the resettlement. The system of soil classification now prevailing in the tract will be retained. The present arrangement by which soils of equal productive capacity are grouped in tarams and the existing method of notation of the different soils will also be retained.

(b) In describing soils the following symbols will be used :—
II means permanently improved ;
III means black clay ;
IV means black loam ;
V means black sand ;
VII means red loam ; and
VIII means red sand.

There are at present two sorts in class II and three in each of the other classes except class VIII. In the expected class there is an additional sort called VIII-A. Arabic numerals below the Roman figures in the tables in paragraphs 13 and 20 below denote the sort of the soil. The extra sort under class VIII (red sand) will be denoted as 'A'.

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5. The Officer-in-charge of the Settlement Party and his gazetted assistants are authorized to assign a classification or suitably alter or adjust, wherever necessary, the existing classification and money rates in the case of the following lands :—

(a) Lands which have been transferred from dry to wet or vice versa and from one irrigation source to another subsequent to the last resettlement ;

(b) lands which are classed as 'poramboke' or 'unassessed' at the last resettlement, but which have been transferred to the head of assessed waste or assigned by the Revenue Department ;

(c) lands transferred from 'poramboke' or 'unassessed' to 'assessed' during the resettlement ; and

(d) unsurveyed lands since surveyed and transferred to assessed.

6. In classifying or reclassifying soils as above, the system of classification adopted at the last resettlement will be followed.

7. No concession by way of fixing a lower taram and rate of assessment on unoccupied lands will be shown at the ensuing resettlement. The classification of all lands remaining unoccupied and bearing the lower taram on that account will be raised to the taram appropriate to the soil.

8. The rates of assessment of occupied lands now bearing the lower taram will be replaced by the rates appropriate to the classification of the soil when the lands are relinquished by the registered holders. A note to this effect will be made in the resettlement register.

IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF IRRIGATION SOURCES.

9. (a) No change will be made in the existing classification of irrigation sources.

(b) If, at any time during the term of the resettlement, a defect on account of which an irrigation source has been placed in a lower class is remedied by Government or if any source is improved or any new source constructed by Government, the Government shall be at liberty to revise the resettlement classification or to assign a suitable classification, as the case may be, to such sources and to impose such wet rates of assessment or such water-rates as they may deem fit on the lands commanded by such sources.

V.—WET LANDS.

10. *Commutation rates.*—Paddy was taken as the standard wet crop, at the last resettlement. The highest average price of the crop prior to the resettlement after deducting 22 per cent on account of cartage and merchants' profits from the prices noted at the several price recording stations, was Rs. 136 a garce. The commutation rate actually adopted at the resettlement was however Rs. 112–8–0, i.e., Rs. 100 adopted at the original settlement plus the enhancement of 12½ per cent sanctioned at the resettlement. Making a similar deduction as at the last resettlement and calculating on the basis of the average price of paddy in the ryots' selling months during the twenty non-famine years ending with fasli 1342 (1932–33) a commutation rate of Rs. 309 a garce is arrived at. This rate shows an increase of 175 per cent over the commutation rate actually adopted at the last resettlement.

11. *Money-rates.*—The Government have decided, that in spite of the rise in the commutation rate by 175 per cent, the wet rates should be enhanced only by the small percentages shown below :—

Items.	Percentage of enhancement.
(i) Lands irrigated by the Cauvery in the taluks of Namakkal and Tiruchengodu and those irrigated by the Mangalam tank in Tiruchengodu taluk .. .. Total extent about acres 5,536.	18¾
(ii) All other wet lands under the II, III, IV and V class sources in the southern taluks of the Salem district and in the twenty-six villages of the Musiri taluk .. .. .. Total extent acres 56,605·43.	12½

12. *Calculation of second crop charge and double crop wet assessment.*—Under a long-standing practice obtaining in the track covered by the resettlement, all wet lands have been registered as double crop lands and a consolidated double crop wet assessment has been fixed in respect of every field. This system will be continued. The existing

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method of calculating the second crop charge for collection of double crop assessment will also remain unchanged. The second crop charge varies as follows in respect of the lands under the several classes of irrigation sources :—

Lands under first class source—$\frac{1}{2}$ of the single crop assessment.
Lands under second class sources—$\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ or 1/5 of the single crop assessment.
Lands under third and fourth class sources—$\frac{1}{4}$ or 1/5 of the single crop assessment.
Lands under fifth class sources—1/5 of the single crop assessment.

The second crop rate is, however, subject to a minimum of one rupee in some cases and eight annas in some others according to the arrangement that is coming down from the time of the old settlement. Deduction of 8 annas in the case of certain lands in which the second crop assessment has been consolidated at $\frac{1}{4}$ or 1/5 the single crop lands has also been allowed.

In a few cases the second-crop charge for lands under the first-class sources was wrongly calculated at one-third instead of at one-half. The Officer in charge of the party and his gazetted assistants are authorized to correct such mistakes.

When lands are newly transferred to wet, the consolidated wet assessment that will be fixed will be the rate imposed on the adjacent land and if there are more rates than one the highest of such rates.

13. The following tables compare the existing and the new rates of double-crop assessment under the sources mentioned in paragraph 11 above.

Wet lands under the Cauvery channels and Mangalam tank.

Class and sort of soil.						Lands under Cauvery channels, I class.			Lands under the Mangalam tank, III class.		
II (1)	III (2)	IV (3)	V (4)	VII (5)	VIII (6)	Taram. (7)	Old rate. (8)	New rate. (9)	Taram. (10)	Old rate. (11)	New rate. (12)
							RS. A.	RS. A.		RS. A.	RS. A.
1	..	..	..	..	..	1	17 10	20 14	..	..	..
2	..	1	..	..	..	2	16 2	19 2	5	10 3	12 1
..	..	2	..	1	..	4	13 8	16 0	8	8 2	9 9
..	1	..	1	2	1	6	12 0	14 4	10	6 12	7 15
..	2	..	2	..	..	8	10 2	12 0	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	2	10	8 7	9 15	12	4 6	5 0
..	..	3	3	3	..	11	6 12	8 0	13	3 12	4 4
..	3	..	..	..	3	12	5 1	6 0	..	..	..

Wet lands under the II, III (other than those under the Mangalam taluk), IV and V class sources.

Class and sort of soil.						II class.			III class.			IV class.			V class.		
II (1)	III (2)	IV (3)	V (4)	VII (5)	VIII (6)	Taram. (7)	Old rate. (8)	New rate. (9)	Taram. (10)	Old rate. (11)	New rate. (12)	Taram. (13)	Old rate. (14)	New rate. (15)	Taram. (16)	Old rate. (17)	New rate. (18)
							RS. A.	RS. A.		RS. A.	RS. A.		RS. A.	RS. A.		RS. A.	RS. A.
2	..	1	..	..	..	3	12 11	14 4	5	10 10	12 0	7	9 1	10 3	9	7 0	7 15
							11 14	13 6	..	10 3	11 8	..	8 9	9 12	..	..	..
							11 6	12 13	..	..	..	..	8 3	9 5	..	..	..
..	..	2	..	1	..	6	10 11	12 0	8	8 7	9 8	10	7 1	7 14	11	5 6	6 1
							10 0	11 4	..	8 2	9 2	..	6 12	7 0	..	..	..
							9 10	10 13	..	..	..	..	6 9	7 6	..	..	..
..	1	..	1	2	1	8	9 0	10 2	10	7 1	7 14	11	5 10	6 5	12	4 1	4 9
							8 7	9 8	..	6 12	7 9	..	5 8	6 1	..	3 14	4 5
							8 2	9 2	..	..	..	..	5 6	6 1	..	..	..
							..	..	11	5 2	5 13	10	6 4	7 1	11	5 0	5 9
							..	..	..	..	..	11	5 2	5 13	13	3 5	3 12
							..	..	..	..	..	..	5 0		..	..	..
							..	..	..	..	..	13	3 5	3 2	..	..	..
..	2	..	2	..	..	10	7 8	8 7	11	5 10	6 5	12	4 6	4 13	13	3 4	3 10
							7 1	7 14	..	5 6	6 1	..	3 14	4 5	..	..	..
							6 12	7 9	..	5 8	6 1	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	2	11	6 0	6 12	12	4 6	4 13	13	3 12	4 2	14	2 12	3 1
							5 10	6 5	..	4 1	4 9	..	..	..	..	..	..
							5 8	6 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	3	3	3	..	12	4 8	5 1	13	3 12	4 2	14	3 4	3 9	15	2 4	2 8
							4 6	4 13	..	..	..	..	2 12	3 1	..	2 2	2 6
..	3	..	..	..	3	13	3 12	4 2	14	3 4	3 9	15	2 4	2 8	16	1 14	2 1
							3 4	3 10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

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14. *Revision of wet ayacut.*—Transfer from dry to wet and *vice versa.*

In the taluks dealt with prior to the introduction of the new simplified system of resettlement procedure sanctioned in G.O. No. 1368, Revenue, dated 30th June 1932, viz., the taluks of Salem, Attur, old Rasipur, Tiruchengodu and 43 villages of Omalur, the Officer in charge of the Settlement Party and his gazetted assistants were authorized to transfer to wet, fields registered as "dry" which had been regularly under wet cultivation for five years or from which, in their opinion, it was impossible to exclude water from a Government source of irrigation, provided that the lands could be irrigated economically and without prejudice to other registered wet lands. They were also authorized to transfer to dry, fields registered as wet which, owing to their situation on a high level or for any other reason, were unfit for wet cultivation, provided the owners agreed to the change. In the above cases a soil classification suitable to their new description will be assigned. These items of work will not be done in the remaining areas dealt with under the new simplified system.

15. *Irrigation-cess.*—The voluntary irrigation-cess for the upkeep of the Cauvery channels will continue to be levied as at present but the Government reserve to themselves the right to enhance the cess during the currency of the resettlement. Should the ryots at any future time be relieved of this charge, the Government reserve to themselves the right to enhance the land assessment suitably.

16. *Baling remission.*—Wet lands irrigated entirely by baling throughout the year will be allowed a remission of Rs. 1–8–0 per acre or one-fourth the double-crop assessment whichever is less.

VI.—Dry Lands.

17. *Grouping.*—The existing grouping will remain unaltered.

18. *Commutation rate.*—At the last resettlement, cholam, ragi and cumbu were adopted as the standard dry crops. The highest average price of these crops prior to the resettlement after deducting 28 per cent on account of cartage and merchants' profits, from the prices noted at the several price-recording stations was Rs. 136 a garce. The commutation rate actually adopted at the resettlement was however Rs. 112–8–0, i.e., Rs. 100 adopted at the original settlement plus the enhancement of 12½ per cent sanctioned at the resettlement. Making a similar deduction as at the last resettlement and calculating on the basis of the average price of the abovementioned dry grains in the ryots selling months during the twenty non-famine years ending with fasli 1342 (1932–33), a commutation rate of Rs. 354 a garce is arrived at. This rate shows an increase of 215 per cent over the commutation rate actually adopted at the last resettlement.

19. *Money rates.*—The Government have decided to enhance the existing rates only by 12½ per cent, the lowest two rates (As. 5 and As. 4) being left unaltered.

20. The following table compares the old and the new dry rates in the whole tract.

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Class and sort of soil.					I Group.			II Group.			III Group.			IV Group.		
III.	IV.	V.	VII.	VIII.	Taram.	Old rate.	New rate.	Taram.	Old rate.	New rate.	Taram.	Old rate.	New rate.	Taram.	Old rate.	New rate.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
						RS. A.	RS. A.		RS. A.	RS. A.		RS. A.	RS. A.		RS. A.	RS. A.
..	1	..	..	..	3	3 6	3 12	4	2 12	3 2	5	2 0	2 4	6	1 6	1 9
					4	2 12	3 2	5	2 0	2 4	6	1 6	1 9	7	1 2	1 4
1	2	..	1	A	4	2 12	3 2	5	2 0	2 4	6	1 6	1 9	7	1 2	1 4
					5	2 0	2 4	6	1 6	1 9	7	1 2	1 4	8	0 14	1 0
2	..	1	2	1	5	2 0	2 4	6	1 6	1 9	7	1 2	1 4	8	0 14	1 0
					6	1 6	1 9	7	1 2	1 4	8	0 14	1 0	9	0 9	0 10
..	..	2	..	2	6	1 6	1 9	7	1 2	1 4	8	0 14	1 0	9	0 9	0 10
					7	1 2	1 4	8	0 14	1 0	9	0 9	0 10	10	0 7	0 8
..	3	..	..	..	7	1 2	1 4	8	0 14	1 0	9	0 9	0 10	10	0 7	0 8
					8	0 14	1 0	9	0 9	0 10	10	0 7	0 8	11	0 6	0 7
3	..	3	..	..	8	0 14	1 0	9	0 9	0 10	10	0 7	0 8	11	0 6	0 7
					9	0 9	0 10	10	0 7	0 8	11	0 6	0 7	12	0 5	0 5
..	..	..	3	3	9	0 9	0 10	10	0 7	0 8	12	0 5	0 5	12	0 5	0 5
					10	0 7	0 8	11	0 6	0 7	13	0 4	0 4	13	0 4	0 4

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21. *Water-cess on dry lands.*—The levy of water-rate will be governed by the rules notified by the Government from time to time.

22. *Lands irrigated from wells.*—Dry lands irrigated solely from wells situated on occupied lands will not be charged for the use of the water.

According to the instructions issued in G.O. No. 2816, Revenue, dated 25th August 1910, and Board's Proceedings Mis. No. 3783, dated 14th November 1913, lands in the ayacut of doruvu wells have already been transferred to dry by the Revenue Department in all cases in which the registered holders concerned consented to such transfer. If any cases have been left out, lands covered by such cases will also be transferred to 'dry' at resettlement if the registered holders of the lands apply for it. Lands forming the ayacut of doruvu wells registered as dry in the accounts will be charged water-rate at one-fourth of the rate usually charged for water supplied to a wet crop, if the water is raised by a single lift and at one-eighth of the same rate if the water is raised by a double lift. The rate will not depend on the crop grown. No charge will be made for the cultivation of a second crop under these wells. These concessions will not apply to inams settled as wet under doruvu wells.

23. *Lands irrigated from private tanks.*—Dry lands irrigated from private tanks or kuttais situated in the holdings of ryots and constructed with the Collector's permission are not liable to payment of water-rate unless the conditions of the grant of the permission lay down otherwise. The authorized water-spread of such of the kuttais as were not cultivated within ten years immediately preceding the construction of the tanks (kuttais) is exempt from payment of dry assessment.

24. *Achukkattus.*—The Government reserve the right to impose at any time during the period of the resettlement whatever additional assessment they may deem necessary on any dry land on which wet crops are, or may hereafter be, raised by the aid of achukkattus in a manner which, in the opinion of the district authorities, is objectionable.

VII.—Lands in the water-spread of Irrigation Sources.

25. Tank bed lands under holding will, whether they have hitherto been shown in the revenue accounts as wet or dry, be classed as 'dry' and assessed at a special rate intermediate between the wet and dry rates, the rate depending on the advantages which the land derives from the submersion, unless such lands are irrigated from and included in the ayacut of a source different from, and unconnected with, the one in the bed of which they are situated. The assessment so fixed will be leviable in all seasons whether the lands are cultivated or not. In the tract dealt with under the new simplified system, cases already shown in the revenue accounts as liable to submersion will alone be examined and the rates of assessment suitably revised leaving the detection of new cases to the Revenue Department.

VIII.—Special Rate Lands.

26. The assessment on special rate lands will be revised in accordance with paragraph 10 of Board's Standing Order No. 8, that is to say, the special rate will be altered in the same proportion as the average assessment on the dry lands of the village in which the 'special rate lands' lie.

IX.—Ground-rent.

27. The Government reserve the right to impose at any time during the currency of the resettlement whatever ground-rent they may deem necessary on occupied ryotwari lands assigned subsequent to the date of this notification, if they are used for building purposes.

X.—Increment Remission.

28. *Increment remissions.*—In view of the relatively low level of present prices, the Government have decided that some leniency should be shown in the introduction of the new rates of assessment now sanctioned. This will take the form of the grant of increment remissions in respect of the percentage increase of the rates of assessment in the fasli in which the new rates are introduced and the two following faslis. This remission will not be allowed in respect of enhancements which are due to—

(i) increase in area ascertained in the course of resurvey;

(ii) transfer of land from unoccupied dry to occupied dry; or

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(iii) transfer of land from single-crop to double-crop. It will be calculated in the following manner :—

In the case of holdings or portions of holdings on which the existing rates are enhanced by 18¾ per cent a remission of approximately two-thirds of all percentage increases of the rates of assessment will be granted in the fasli in which the new rates are introduced ; and in the next fasli, a remission of approximately one third ; in the succeeding faslis, the full sanctioned rates will be in force. In the case of holdings or portions of holdings on which the existing rates are enhanced by 12½ per cent, the process of reaching the full sanctioned rates of assessment will be spread equally, as far as may be, over a period of four years ; the full rates will be in force in the fourth fasli of introduction. On unoccupied lands, the full resettlement rates will be in force from the year in which they are brought under occupation. The Government will consider when the kist collections are due to begin in the next fasli and in the succeeding faslis, whether with reference to the economic situation then prevailing the increment remission mentioned above should be increased.

29. The remissions due will be worked out for each patta in accordance with the instructions given below :—

(i) The basis of calculation will be the total assessment due on each patta and not the assessment due on individual survey numbers or subdivisions.

(ii) Since the period of increment remission is two years for certain holdings and three years for others those pattas which contain holdings of more than one class will be divided into sections for the purpose of calculating the remission due.

(iii) To give effect to the two-year increment remission, a deduction will be made in the first year of introduction from the total of the patta or the section of it, of two annas for each rupee of the original assessment. In the second year, a deduction of one anna in the rupee will be made in the same way. To give effect to the three-year increment remission, a deduction will be made in the first year of one and a half anna for each rupee, one anna in the second and half anna in the third year. In calculating the increment remission due, a sum of eight annas and less of the old assessment will be ignored, while a sum of nine annas and more will be reckoned as a rupee.

30. If the whole or any portion of the land held by a registered holder at resettlement is alienated or relinquished and reassigned, the full resettlement rate will be levied from the new holder with effect from the fasli in which the transfer takes place. In such cases, the amount of remission equitably due on any portion of the holding which remains in the possession of the original holder will be fixed by the Revenue Divisional Officer, subject to the control of the District Collector, by the application of the principles laid down above. When one of the holders of a joint holding transfers his interest therein either to his co-holder or to a stranger, increment remission will be admissible so long as the joint holding remains intact and so long as one or more of the original holders of the holding retains his or their interest therein ; but when all the joint holders have transferred their interest in the holding, the full resettlement rate will be levied with effect from the fasli in which the last of such transfers takes place.

XI.—Registry of Holdings.

31. Preliminary to the resettlement, the latest revenue adangal was brought up to date and the result embodied in a fresh land register. Registered holders or other persons possessing any interest in land forming the subject of resettlement in the tract can obtain any information relating to their holdings from the Officer-in-charge of Settlement Party No. II, Salem, or from the Special Assistant Settlement Officer-in-charge of the Branch Settlement office of the taluk in which the land about which information is required lies.

XII.—Rough Pattas.

32. *Issue.*—At the time of resettlement no rough patta will be issued in respect of the villages of the old Namakkal taluk (the taluk as it existed prior to the abolition of the Rasipur taluk) and the 26 villages of the Musiri taluk of the Trichinopoly district which are unresurveyed areas. In the remaining portion of the tract referred to in paragraph 1 above including the old Rasipur taluk, a rough patta will be issued

through the village headman to each registered holder in those villages where notices of changes made in the registry or in the description of land in connexion with the revision of adangals or resurvey have not already been communicated. In the case of villages where notices of such changes have already been given to the registered holders and their objections, if any, have been duly heard and disposed of, there will be no further issue of rough pattas at the time of resettlement; but a notice will be given to each registered holder of such further alteration in the taram and description of land as may be carried out in respect of his holding in accordance with the principles enumerated in the preceding paragraphs. The procedure in regard to the service of these notices will be the same as that prescribed for the service of rough pattas. Every endeavour will be made to secure prompt delivery to the registered holders concerned of the rough pattas and notices referred to above but non-resident and absentee registered holders must make their own arrangements to obtain them from the village headman.

33. *Objections to be heard.*—The date on which and the place at which objections to entries in, or omissions from, a rough patta are heard are entered in the patta. The rough patta issued at resettlement in respect of the tract dealt with under the old system shows the old survey numbers and assessment, the resurvey numbers (wherever the old numbering has been altered), the names of registered holders, the description of the land (Government, dry, wet, single-crop, double-crop, baling, etc.), the registered sources of irrigation and the assessment which will hereafter be levied on the land. In respect of the resurveyed tract dealt with under the new simplified system, the rough pattas however show only the old and the new survey numbers, the old and the resurvey extents and the names of the registered holders. As the issue of rough pattas precedes the settlement field inspection in the latter tract the other changes, if any, incidental to resettlement will be intimated to the parties concerned by separate notices. Notice of the time and place fixed for hearing objections will be posted in the village chavadi, or where there is no village chavadi in some other conspicuous place in the village and will be published in the village by beat of tom-tom not less than ten days previous to the date of hearing. The headman and the karnam will attend the hearing at the time and place fixed for the disposal of objections. Objections to entries in, or omissions from, the patta will be heard and disposed of on a day and at a place notified therein. No objection petition will be received by the Settlement Officer after the date notified in the manner set forth above unless the delay in presenting the petition is explained to his satisfaction. The manner in which objections to entries in the notices of alterations referred to above will be received and disposed of will be set out in the notices themselves.

34. Errors found in the rough pattas and notices in regard to survey numbers, areas, names of registered holders and the registration of lands as dry, wet, Government, inam, porambokes or the like can be corrected at any time during or after the resettlement if brought to notice by the party interested. Petitions for alteration of demarcation, however, are barred by the provisions of the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act VIII of 1923 and will not be entertained.

35. *Objections barred.*—No objections will be admitted as to the rates of assessment in the case of lands on which the old money-rate remains unaltered or has only been altered by a percentage increase in accordance with paragraphs 13 and 20 of this notification.

36. *Appeals.*—There is no right of appeal in cases of transfer of registry ordered by a Supervisor or a Special Deputy Tahsildar. But a revision petition may be filed before the Special Assistant Settlement Officer of the taluk or the officer-in-charge of the party against the orders of the abovementioned subordinates. A similar revision petition may be filed before the District Collector against the orders passed by a gazetted officer of the Settlement Party in matters relating to revenue registry. In cases of assignment of lands, appeals against the orders of a Supervisor or Special Deputy Tahsildar shall lie to the Revenue Divisional Officer and those against the orders of a Special Settlement Officer or Special Assistant Settlement Officer to the Collector. In regard to other matters, appeals lie only to the Board of Revenue. Parties must obtain a public copy of the order in each case before filing an appeal or revision petition. Appeals may be preferred to the Revenue Divisional Officer or Collector within 30 days and to the Board of Revenue within 40 days from the date of communication of the order appealed against. These periods are exclusive of the time occupied in obtaining copies of the orders appealed against and in cases in which the original order was communicated by post, they are also exclusive of the time which the order would take to reach the party in the ordinary course of business. With the appeal petition must be sent the original or a copy of the order appealed against. Appeal petitions need not be stamped, but copies and enclosures appended thereto must be stamped in accordance with the rules.

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In the case of taluks and parts of taluks, where the hearing of the objections to changes made in connexion with the revision of adangals and the resurvey has been completed before the issue of this notification, appeals against the orders passed at such objection hearing may be preferred to the Collector or the Board, as the case may be, at any time within two months of the issue of this notification.

XIII.—RELINQUISHMENTS.

37. If in any of the taluks under resettlement, it is found impossible to issue the rough pattas and notices referred to in paragraphs 32 and 33 above before the date fixed for the acceptance of relinquishments for the fasli in which the new rates are to be introduced, viz., 31st May 1934, the time within which relinquishments may be made will be extended until a month after the close of the enquiry into objections to the rough pattas and notices, in order to enable landholders to make such changes in their holdings as they may decide to make with reference to the revised rates imposed at the resettlement. Lands relinquished must consist of entire survey fields or entire sub-divisions indicated by sub-numbers or subdivision letters which are separately recorded in the rough pattas or notices.

XIV.—KISTBANDI.

38. The existing kistbandi in the southern taluks of the Salem district and in the 26 villages of the Musiri taluk of the Trichinopoly district that have now to be resettled will remain unaltered.

XV.—DURATION OF RESETTLEMENT.

39. (a) Subject to the provisions of clauses (b) and (c) below, the resettlement will remain in force for a period of thirty years and the rates of assessment now sanctioned will not be changed during that period. The Government reserve to themselves the right to revise thereafter the assessment on lands in such manner as may then seem just and proper, but no enhancement of assessment will then be made in respect of any additional value which may have been imparted to lands by improvements effected by the ryots whether such improvements have been carried out by money borrowed from the Government or otherwise.

(b) The Government reserve the right to alter or revise within the period fixed for the duration of the resettlement, the classification of lands adopted at the resettlement and to impose additional assessment or to substitute ground-rent for assessment as the case may be in the following cases:—

(i) Where on lands classed as dry wet crops are or may hereafter be raised by the aid of achukkattus.

(ii) Where ryotwari lands assigned subsequent to the date of this notification are used for building purposes.

(iii) Where irrigation of the land has been improved by the Government during the currency of the resettlement.

(iv) Where the lands have been included in the ayacut of any irrigation work constructed or extended by the Government during the currency of the resettlement.

(v) Where lands are included in the waterspread of a tank.

(vi) Where dry lands are converted to wet or vice versa.

(c) The Government also reserve the right to change from time to time the rate of water charge and the method of calculating it in the case of lands not registered as wet.

APPENDIX XVII.

[Vide item XI (5) at page 99 supra.]

LIST OF POSTS ON Rs. 500 PER MENSEM AND ABOVE CREATED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1934.

PERMANENT.

Nil.

TEMPORARY.

Extension of previous sanction.

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
	RS.		
Public (Special) Department—			
Additional District Judge, East Godavari.	Pay in the regular line of the I.C.S.	From 22nd December 1934 to the date of commencement of summer recess of the District Court in 1935.	....
Additional Sessions Judge, Coimbatore.	Do.	For one year from 24th December 1934.	....
Law Department—			
Additional Sub-Judge, Vizagapatam.	650	One year from 24th December 1934.	....
Additional Sub-Judge, Cuddalore.	650	Three months from 1st January 1935.	....
Additional Sub-Judge, Guntur.	650	One year from 22nd December 1934.	....
Public Works and Labour Department—			
Superintending Engineer.	1,750—2,150	Till the end of March 1935.	For the charge of the Dowlaishwaram Circle.
Executive Engineer ..	625—1,375	Do.	For the charge of the Ramnad division.

Posts newly created.

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
Public (Special) Department—			
Officer on special duty in the Chief Secretariat for the preparation of the Presidency Administration Report.	Pay in the regular line of I.C.S. plus Madras House Allowance.	Three months from 27th October 1934.	Mr. F. W. A. Morris, I.C.S., has been appointed to the special duty.
Special Officer, Board of Revenue, for conducting enquiry into rural indebtedness.	Pay in the regular line of the I.C.S.	Six months from 3rd January 1935.	Mr. W. R. S. Sathianathan, I.C.S., was appointed to this post.
Law (General) Department—			
Additional District Munsif, Chittoor.	Do.	Six months from the date of the commencement of the Judicial training.	Posts created for giving Judicial training to I.C.S. officers.
Additional District Munsif, Tinnevelly.	Do.	Do.	Do.
Public (Police) Department—			
District Superintendent of Police for revision of Police orders.	1,250 plus £30 Overseas pay from 12th November 1934 to 23rd November 1934 and Rs. 1,300 plus £30 Overseas pay from 24th November 1934.	Three months from 12th November 1934.	Mr. L. B. Gasson, was appointed to this post.

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
	RS.		

TEMPORARY—*cont.*

Posts newly created—cont.

Finance Department—			
Assistant Secretary to Government.	500—50—800	For six months from 1st October 1934.	Post created in connexion with the preparation of Budget Estimate for 1935–36.
Additional Temporary Assistant Secretary to Government.	500—50—800	For three months from 26th November 1934.	Post created in connexion with the examination of financial implications arising out of the Joint Select Committee Report.
Public Works and Labour Department—			
Executive Engineer ..	625—1,375	Till the end of November 1935.	For work in connexion with the *further investigation* of the Bhavani Reservoir Project.
Do. ..	625—1,375	Till the 28th June 1935 ..	For work in connexion with Famine Relief Work in Anantapur and Bellary districts.

S. A. VENKATARAMAN,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Friday, the 22nd February 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.
Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, the Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Sri A. V.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Schamnad, Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Selection Committee, if any, for admission of candidates into the Queen Mary's College, Madras.

* 647 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any selection committee has been now constituted for selecting applicants for admission to the Queen Mary's College, Madras;

(*b*) if so, who the members now serving on the committee are;

(*c*) how many students applied for admission in each class in that college in each year since 1930;

(*d*) of these, how many were selected for admission in each class;

(*e*) for how many students accommodation is provided in the hostel attached to that college; and

(*f*) how many are in that hostel now?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A selection committee has not been constituted for the Queen Mary's College.

(*c*) & (*d*) In the years 1930 and 1931, no record of the applications for admission into the college was maintained; practically all the candidates belonging to this Presidency whose applications were received before the prescribed date, were admitted. The particulars for the years 1932 to 1934 are given below:—

	Number of candidates who applied for admission.		Number of candidates who were admitted.	
	Junior Intermediate.	Junior B.A.	Junior Intermediate.	Junior B.A.
1932 ..	76	20	56	17
1933 ..	112	23	87	13
1934 ..	93	41	82	36

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(e) Accommodation is available for 200 students.

(f) 186.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know, Sir, why a selection committee was not constituted for this college? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" A selection committee has been considered unnecessary for this college."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know, Sir, how many students of this Presidency have been refused admission in the years for which figures are furnished? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I cannot say, I must examine that."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" In view of the fact that the number of applications has been increasing, and just as there has been a case for committees being appointed for men's colleges, will the Government consider the advisability of constituting a committee mainly of ladies? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I do not think the constitution of a committee is necessary; but I may tell my hon. Friend that in accordance with the suggestions made by my hon. Friend and accepted by me on a previous occasion, instructions have been issued that in the case of candidates seeking admission to this college, particularly those belonging to *the educationally backward communities, no higher percentage of* marks than that required by the University need be insisted upon."

Appointment of Deputy and Junior Deputy Inspectors and Sub-Assistant Inspectresses of Schools made since 1930.

* 648 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) how many new appointments of Senior and Junior Deputy Inspectors and Sub-Assistant Inspectresses of Schools were made in each year since 1930;

(b) how many of these were made by direct recruitment and how many by promotion from the lower ranks of the department; and

(c) what is the districtwar and communitywar strength of persons so appointed?

A.—*(a) to (c)* The particulars are given in the three statements* appended.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know, Sir, why an equitable distribution was not given to districts in the matter of selection? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Notice."

* Printed as Appendix I on page 221 infra.

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Orphanages in the Presidency and the grant paid to those intended for the Hindu depressed classes.

* 649 *Q.*—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many orphanages are aided by the Educational Department in this Presidency;

(*b*) how many of them are Hindu, Christian, Muhammadan and depressed classes;

(*c*) how many of them are maintained by Hindu depressed class agencies for the benefit of the Hindu depressed class pupils;

(*d*) what is the grant paid by the department per pupil;

(*e*) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that this amount is quite inadequate for maintaining an orphanage; and

(*f*) whether there has been any special consideration shown to Hindu depressed class orphanages; and if so, what?

A.—(*a*) Two hundred and seven.

(*b*) The distribution of orphanages according to management is as follows:—

Hindu	17
Muhammadan	6
Christian	182 *
Depressed classes	2

* Most of the Christian orphanages are run for the benefit of depressed classes.

(*c*) Two.

(*d*) Under rule 62 of the Grant-in-Aid Code the grant payable to an orphanage is restricted to two-thirds of the net boarding charges in the institution subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 3 a month per pupil.

(*e*) A representation was made in 1933 by certain Members of the Legislative Council that the grants given to orphanages maintained for pupils belonging to the depressed classes should be increased.

(*f*) No.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" In view of the disproportionate distribution of the orphanages, the Christian missionaries getting as many as 182, will not Government consider the advisability of increasing the number of orphanages pertaining to other communities? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It is for those communities to start orphanages."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether it is not the case that applications from orphanages and boarding houses belonging

to communities other than Christian have been rejected on the ground that there is not sufficient money for distribution?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I am not aware of it."

Excise

Excise duty on homœopathic medicines imported from Bengal.

* 650 *Q*.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have recently received representations submitting that excise duty on homœopathic medicines imported from Bengal (Calcutta) into our Presidency be waived for the present in some cases; and

(*b*) if so, what action they have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes, on 29th January 1935 from the hon. Member who has asked this question.

(*b*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Fisheries

Fisheries in the Ganjam district.

* 651 *Q*.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any steps have been or are taken by the Fisheries Department to stock the tanks in Ganjam with fish or to help the growth of fish in the Ganjam district;

(*b*) if not, why not; and

(*c*) the work done by the Fisheries Department for the benefit of the Ganjam district?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The tanks are not stocked by the Fisheries department, as the scheme for the acquisition and development of inland fisheries in the Ganjam district has been considered and postponed for financial reasons. Though the scheme has been deferred, advice and necessary technical instruction are being given to private parties who wish to improve the fisheries of the ponds and streams.

(*c*) Duty-free salt is issued to bona fide ticket-holders in the 16 public fish-curing yards situated in the Ganjam district. In order to remove the difficulty now experienced in the preparation of dried prawns during the monsoon when the prawns abound, attempts are being made to

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introduce the artificial drier perfected at the Tanur Experimental Station (Malabar).

Grievances of fishermen are enquired into and suggestions for redress are offered. Attempts to revive some of the co-operative societies are also made.

Co-operation

Liquidation of co-operative societies in Ganjam during the last two years.

* 652 *Q.*—Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many co-operative societies have been liquidated within the last two years in the Ganjam district and for what reasons;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that Dusipeta Committee was superseded and a defaulting Director, Boddepalli Ramamurti, was nominated and supported by the Deputy Registrar as Agent;

(*c*) whether the Amudalavalsa Union was abolished and the grounds on which it was abolished;

(*d*) whether Boddepalli Ramamurti was a Director in that Society; and

(*e*) what are the duties of Boddepalli Ramamurti as agent assigned to him by Mr. Venkataratnam Pantulu, Deputy Registrar?

A.—(*a*) The registration of 13 societies was cancelled in the year 1933 and of one society in 1934. Of the 14 societies liquidated, 12 were credit societies, one local supervising union and one primary land mortgage bank.

The credit societies were liquidated for the following reasons:—

In one society the membership fell below the statutory minimum of 10. In five societies applications for voluntary liquidation were received from members; attempts to revive the societies failed. In two societies the Registrar in the course of his inspection tours found that their working was very unsatisfactory. Their working could not be improved. In the remaining four societies defects such as heavy overdues, mismanagement by panchayatdars, retention of heavy cash balances, benami loans, etc., necessitated liquidation. In all these cases several attempts were made to revive the societies, and only when such attempts failed were they liquidated.

The local supervising union was liquidated as its existence was not found beneficial to the affiliated societies; the delegates representing the affiliated

societies applied for its liquidation and the Aska Co-operative Central Bank recommended the cancellation. This bank has taken over the functions of the union.

The Berhampur Land Mortgage Bank was liquidated as no loans could be sanctioned owing to the Central Land Mortgage Bank's apprehension of the possible transfer of Berhampur to the proposed Orissa Province; and as its members pressed for the refund of their share capital.

(*b*) The reference presumably is to the committee of the Bhaskararaopuram Co-operative Society which has Dusipeta village in its area of operations. The committee of this society was not superseded. There is however a proposal to elect an agent under by-law 62 of the by-laws of the society to be in charge of its affairs. As this has not yet been decided the question of appointing Mr. B. Ramamurti as agent does not arise. He is not a member of this society. He is a member of the Kanugulavalasa Co-operative Society, and is not a defaulter.

(*c*) The Amudalavalasa Local Co-operative Supervising Union was liquidated on 18th April 1932 for the following reasons:—

(i) Its weak and inefficient supervision of its affiliated societies;

(ii) its inadequate control over its paid staff;

(iii) its failure to scrutinize the property statements of affiliated societies;

(iv) the fact that the Directors of the union were for the most part defaulters in their societies; and

(v) the failure of attempts to reconstitute the directorate of the union. The Ganjam District Co-operative Banking Union also recommended the liquidation of the union.

(*d*) Mr. B. Ramamurthi was a Director of this union and its Secretary from the date of its starting till 18th April 1931 when he resigned the secretaryship of the union.

(*e*) In view of the answer to clause (*b*), the question does not arise.

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"May I know, Sir, whether the President, Secretary and the Directors had been consulted before the societies were liquidated?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"No information, Sir."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to call for the information?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I shall call for it."

Community of the Sub-Deputy Registrars of Ganjam district and the number of societies liquidated during the last two years.

* 653 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Sub-Deputy Registrars in the Ganjam district and to what community they belong;

(*b*) to what community do the following belong in the Deputy Registrar's Office:—

(1) Non-Credit Senior Inspector,

(2) Head clerk of the Deputy Registrar's Office,

(3) The establishment clerk,

(4) The audit clerk,

(5) Arbitration clerk,

(6) Executive clerk,

(7) Despatch clerk,

(8) Executive officer,

(9) Audit Inspector; and

(*c*) how many societies have been liquidated within the last two years in the Ganjam district and for what reasons?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 594 asked by Sir A. P. Patro on 30th January 1935.

(*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (*a*) of question No. 652.

Indebtedness of the co-operative societies in Ganjam to the Central Bank, Berhampore.

* 654 *Q.*—Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of money owing to Central Bank, Berhampore, from the societies within its jurisdiction;

(*b*) what the amount owing from the Amudalavalsa Union (which was abolished) is; and

(*c*) what amount Kanugulavalasa village owes to the Central Bank?

A.—(*a*) Out of 310 primary societies affiliated to the Ganjam District Co-operative Banking Union, Limited, Berhampore, 293 societies are indebted to the bank. The amount outstanding from these societies on 1st January 1935 was Rs. 6,85,314, of which Rs. 4,41,440 were overdue.

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(b) The following is the list of societies affiliated to the Amudalavalasa Co-operative Union (since liquidated) and the dues therefrom:—

Name of the society.	As on 1st January 1935.	
	Outstanding.	Overdues.
	RS.	RS.
(1) Kanugulavalasa	3,650	3,090
(2) Hiramandalam	6,250	3,080
(3) Kottakota	1,400	320
(4) Nelliparti	880	800
(5) Dusi	1,070	1,070
(6) Purushottapur (West)	1,380	1,380
(7) Chittivalasa	200	200
(8) Lakshminarasupeta	3,540	...
(9) Kotturu	310	310
(10) Padali	1,840	1,840
(11) Vedullavalasa	4,550	4,550
(12) Amadalavalasa	2,930	2,930
(13) Cheemalavalasa	990	990
(14) Fakirsahebpeta	3,170	3,170
(15) Purushottapur (East)	810	810
(16) Bhaskararaopuram	39,600	39,600
(17) Shallantri	1,270	1,270
(18) Kalivaram	1,690	1,690
(19) Ponnam	2,780	...
(20) Vanjangi	2,270	...
Total	80,580	67,100

(c) The amount due from Kanugulavalasa Co-operative Society on 1st January 1935 was Rs. 3,650 of which a sum of Rs. 3,090 was overdue.

Progress of co-operative societies meant for the depressed classes both prior to and after the transfer of control to the Co-operative department.

* 655 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of co-operative societies for the depressed classes before and after the control was transferred to the Co-operative department giving particulars of membership and share capital;

(b) how many have been liquidated since the control was transferred to the Co-operative department; and

(c) the nature of the staff employed to supervise the working of the depressed class societies?

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A.—(*a*) The depressed class societies in charge of the Labour department were transferred to the Co-operative department from time to time. The transfer began in the course of 1930–31. All of them except those in charge of the Special Kallar Officer, Madura, had come under the control of the Co-operative department by 1st July 1933. The particulars asked for are given below as representing the state of things on 30th June 1930 and on 30th June 1933:—

		Co-operative department.	* Labour department.
Number of societies..	30th June 1930 ..	879	1,781
	30th June 1933 ..	2,526	Nil.
Membership	30th June 1930 ..	37,122	75,263
	30th June 1933 ..	111,686	Nil.
		RS.	RS.
Share capital ..	30th June 1930 ..	3,22,035	4,16,280
	30th June 1933 ..	7,56,236	Nil.

* Excludes societies in charge of Kallar Special Officer.

(*b*) The number of societies cancelled since 1st July 1932 is 331.

(*c*) One Inspector for every 25 societies is employed to supervise the societies.

Local Self-Government

Appointment of a special officer to the Tinnevelly Municipality for the revision of property-tax.

* 656 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a special officer has been appointed to the Tinnevelly Municipality to revise the property-tax, etc., in that municipality;

(*b*) if so, what the necessity for such an appointment is;

(*c*) whether such special officer has been appointed in other municipalities, and, if so, in which of the municipalities such appointments have been made;

(*d*) whether the concerned municipal council is consulted when making such appointments;

(*e*) if so, what the Tinnevelly Municipal Council said when it was consulted; and

(*f*) what the reasons are for not entrusting this work also to the Commissioner of the respective municipalities?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Notification No. 6 on page 1 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 1st January 1935.

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(c) Yes. In Anakapalle. A special officer was also appointed in the Vellore Municipality for a period of about eleven months in 1932.

(d) Yes, under sub-rule (3) of rule 28-A of Schedule IV to the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, only in regard to the salary and allowances payable to the special officer.

(e) The municipal council suggested that in view of its feeble finances, the Commissioner might be empowered to do the work with the aid of municipal councillors instead of appointing a special officer.

(f) The Government considered that it would be impossible for the Commissioner to do the work within a reasonable period in addition to his normal duties.

Principles regulating the re-employment of the staff disbanded on the abolition of taluk boards and the scale of pay admissible to them.

* 657 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many clerks and peons had been employed under taluk boards in each district on 31st March 1934;

(b) of these, how many have been retained in service under the district board in each district, and how many have been ousted from service;

(c) on what principles they have been retained in service;

(d) what the grade or scale of pay fixed for them is and on what principles they have been fixed;

(e) whether the reduction in salary, if any, affects the pensions and other privileges previously enjoyed by those clerks and peons;

(f) if so, in what way; and

(g) whether copies of the Government Orders passed in the matter of selection of such clerks, fixing their pay, pension and other concessions and privileges will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement [a] showing the total number of ex-taluk board clerks and the number of such clerks absorbed in permanent posts under each district board is laid on the table. Lists of clerks not thus absorbed have been drawn up for each district and presidents have been directed to appoint these in existing and future vacancies. Information as to the total number of ex-taluk board peons in each district is not available. Government have permitted each district board to employ ex-taluk board peons up to a maximum number of six.

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 222 infra.

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(c) Attention is invited to the answers to qustions Nos. 274 and 275.

(d) The clerks were appointed to Upper Division (Rs. 55—5/2—65) or Lower Division (Rs. 30—3/2—45—2½/2—50) posts according as they were in posts carrying higher scales or those carrying lower scales under the taluk boards.

(e), (f) & (g) Attention is drawn to the orders laid on the table with reference to question No. 555.

The question of granting compensation pension to ex-taluk board servants is under consideration.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know, Sir, whether orders have been passed with regard to the retirement, pension, etc., of the ex-taluk board employees? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" No, Sir; the matter is under consideration, to see what can be done to mitigate their hardship."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" I find that in Bellary out of the 18 taluk board clerks who were employed formerly, only nine have been absorbed. I want to know whether people with less claims than these ex-clerks have not been appointed? ".

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" We have prepared a waiting list of ex-taluk board employees, and the district boards have been instructed to take them according to the order in that list."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" May be instructions have been issued, but if they are not carried out, will not Government interfere when any deviations occur and set them right? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" No specific cases have been brought to the notice of the Government."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" I have submitted some cases before. I know as a matter of fact that certain employees with greater claims have been overlooked in preference to others."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I will certainly call for the information."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know whether the number given here as having been absorbed is the number that have been absorbed in permanent vacancies or in both permanent and acting ones?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" In both cases."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—" May I ask whether any recruits have been appointed in preference to ex-employees in the West Godavari District Board? Will Government call for the information? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I have no information."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I know whether Government have issued a Government Order asking the district boards to appoint only their acting clerks (when permanent vacancies arise) in preference to ex-taluk board employees? "

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The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" No, Sir, there are cases of district board employees who have acted for 3, 4 and 5 years and have not yet been confirmed. A rule has been issued in the case of these people who have acted satisfactorily for a period of six months and above that they are eligible to be taken as permanent employees."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know, Sir, whether any complaints have been brought to the notice of the Hon. the Minister in the matter of the appointment of new persons in preference to ex-taluk board employees, in the Salem district? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" As far as I am aware, no complaints have been received."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" May I ask whether it is not unjust on the part of the Government to issue orders to prefer six months acting people to people who have put in a service of 20 and 25 years in the taluk boards? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" The two cases are different. One is service in the district board and the other is service in the defunct taluk boards, and so they do not come under one category."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" As a matter of fact, may I know whether the Hon. the Minister is aware that the claims of taluk board clerks who have been in service for 4 years and 5 years but not confirmed have been overlooked, and juniors have been appointed in their place? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I do not quite follow the hon. Member as to whether he means new persons appointed by the district boards or the defunct taluk boards."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" District boards."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I have no information. I have already stated in answer to Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar that I will call for the information."

Number of taluk board employees since re-employed by district boards and the number thrown out of service.

* 658 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of taluk board employees;

(*b*) the number re-employed by district boards; and

(*c*) the number of employees thrown out of service?

A.—As regards the ministerial and menial employees, attention is invited to the answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 657.

Information in regard to other employees is not available.

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Re-employment of the clerks disbanded on the abolition of the taluk boards in the Bellary and Anantapur districts.

* 659 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of clerks in the employ of the taluk boards of Anantapur and Bellary districts respectively at the time of their abolition;

(*b*) the number out of them who were employed by the district boards subsequently and the number still without employment under each of the district boards;

(*c*) whether, after the abolition of the taluk boards, new persons have been employed by either of the district boards though there were old taluk board employees on the waiting list; and

(*d*) whether the re-employed clerks are given the same pay as they were drawing under the taluk boards and, if the pay has been reduced, the authority under which it has been done?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Attention is invited to the answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 657.

(*c*) Government have no information.

(*d*) The re-employed clerks are being granted reduced pay. Attention is invited to section 67 (3) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, as amended.

Grievances of the taluk board clerks thrown out of service.

* 660 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of clerks thrown out of employment consequent on the abolition of taluk boards in each district;

(*b*) the number of clerks absorbed in tbe district board service in each district;

(*c*) what the Government propose to do in the case of taluk board servants not provided for with appointment from 1st June 1934;

(*d*) the pay and service of the clerks thrown out and of those absorbed;

(*e*) whether the Government have ordered the grant of personal allowance to district board clerks alone;

(*f*) whether the same concession is given or proposed to be given to absorbed taluk board clerks; and

(*g*) what the Government propose to do to redress the grievances of the taluk board clerks?

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A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) So far as the ministerial and menial establishments of the late taluk boards are concerned attention is invited to the answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 657.

The educational, medical and public health establishments of the late taluk boards have been practically unaffected by the abolition of taluk boards as they have come under the control of the district boards. As regards other taluk board servants thrown out, they will be provided with appointments when suitable vacancies arise.

(*d*) The Government do not consider that the preparation of statements regarding this information which will involve considerable time and labour will serve any useful purpose.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) No.

(*g*) The question of granting compensation pension to ex-taluk board servants is engaging attention.

Re-employment by the District Board, West Godavari, of the ex-employees of the taluk boards.

• 661 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indrayya: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many ex-employees of the taluk boards were re-employed in the District Board, West Godavari;

(*b*) whether the Government prepared any list of the ex-employees and the order in which they should be re-employed;

(*c*) if so, on what principle; and

(*d*) whether the Government have any information, or have ascertained whether the list is strictly followed by the President, District Board, West Godavari?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) As regards clerks and peons attention is invited to the answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 657. There is no information regarding other employees.

(*c*) On the principle of seniority based upon pay.

(*d*) The Government have not so far had complaints in the matter.

Strength of the additional staff sanctioned for district boards consequent on the abolition of taluk boards.

• 662 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what number of clerks were serving in the offices of the District Board President and Engineer in each district at the end of March 1934; and

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(*b*) what additional staff has been given to each district board after the abolition of taluk boards?

A.—(*a*) A statement[a] is laid on the table.

(*b*) The information will be found in column 3 of the statement furnished in reply to clauses (*a*) and (*b*), question No. 657.

Personal pay to District Board Ministerial and Menial establishments in cases where their original pay has been reduced to a lower maximum as a result of reorganization.

* 663 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether personal pay has been sanctioned for District Board Ministerial and menial establishments in cases where their original pay has been reduced to a lower maximum of the post allotted to them in the reorganization;

(*b*) if so, whether the same privilege was given to the clerks and peons who were in the employ of taluk boards, but were taken under the district boards after the abolition of the former;

(*c*) if not, what the reasons therefor are;

(*d*) whether representations have been received from the ex-taluk board clerks and peons who are now under the district boards to treat them in the same way as other district board clerks, etc., in the matter of sanctioning personal pay; and

(*e*) if so, in what way they have been disposed of?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The Government have after careful consideration decided that the concession should not be extended to them as the authority employing them has been abolished and they are not on the same footing as persons who are continuing to serve the District Board.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The requests have been negatived.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I know, Sir, whose fault it is for making the taluk board employees lose their appointment? Is it their own fault?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Nobody's fault. It is due to the abolition of taluk boards."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"In that case, Sir, is it not fair that their case also should be considered along with other local board employees?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"The cases of taluk board employees are different from those of the district board employees; they do not fall under the same category."

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 222 infra.

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Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I know if Government are prepared to consider equitably the claims of those who are acting clerks in the district boards and of those who are transferred after a number of years of service in the taluk boards, without giving special preference to those who are acting in the district boards? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" It is not possible to differentiate in each case."

Appointment of Educational Officers to district boards.

* 664 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether District Board Educational Officers have been appointed to all the district boards;

(*b*) if not, to which of the district boards such officers have not been appointed, and what the reasons therefor are;

(*c*) who the person appointed is to each district, what his pay and scale of pay now is and his pay, scale of pay, and the post held by him was previous to this; and

(*d*) what the powers to be exercised by such officers are?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes—except the Nilgiris where there were no taluk boards.

(*c*) & (*d*) Attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 295 on 25th October 1934.

The officer selected for the Tinnevelly District Board is Mr. P. M. Duraiswami and the name of the present District Board Educational Officer, Kistna, is Mr. Sheriff Nuruddin.

Proposals, if any, for the appointment of a supervisor for each taluk to control board elementary schools.

* 665 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals before the Government to sanction supervisors for each taluk to control board elementary schools; and

(*b*) if so, the names of district boards which are under the immediate consideration of the Government for being bifurcated?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Vizagapatam, Guntur, North Arcot and Chingleput.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I know whether the Government are going to bifurcate the districts and then throw them open for elections or the elections will be made in advance? "

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The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" It can only be decided after Government have decided to bifurcate the districts. No final decision has been taken yet."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" In cases where the Government have decided to bifurcate, may I ask the Hon. Minister to make a statement to the House as to whether the notification of bifurcation will be issued before the elections to the respective district boards or after the elections? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I have already stated more than once that it all depends on the time of the bifurcation of the district boards and the time of the elections."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Regarding the bifurcation of the North Arcot District Board, may I know whether the Government have adopted the recommendations of that district board or have they any alternative as regards the manner of bifurcation? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" As far as I can recollect, the district board accepted the proposals of Government in the matter of the actual line of demarcation. Now it is not yet definitely decided how the district board will be bifurcated."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know which are the district boards the Government have so far decided to bifurcate and on what principle they have made the selection? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" The selection is made on the merit of size and importance. So far one district board has been bifurcated."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know whether there is any idea of bifurcating the Chingleput District Board? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" It has been already stated that the cases of four district boards are under consideration."

Proposals for the constitution of panchayat boards in Tanuku taluk.

* 666 *Q.*—MR. C. INDRAYYA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the list of villages in Tanuku taluk of West Godavari district for which proposals for the constitution of panchayat boards have been sent up to the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils;

(*b*) whether the proposals have been approved; and

(*c*) if so, when?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) A statement [a] is laid on the table.

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 223 infra.

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Reconstitution of the Panchayat Board, Yelamanchili, Narsapur taluk.

* 667 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indrayya: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) why no steps have been taken by the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils to reconstitute the panchayat boards of Yelamanchili and Yelamanchili lanka of Narsapur taluk in the district of West Godavari;

(*b*) when the Yelamanchili Panchayat Board was dissolved;

(*c*) what are the reasons for constituting two separate panchayat boards—one for the village of Yelamanchili and the other for the village of Yelamanchili lanka; and

(*d*) what is the population of each village?

A.—(*a*) Government understand that elections to the new boards could not be held earlier for want of particulars as to the population of the minority communities for whom seats have to be reserved and that steps are being taken to hold the elections.

(*b*) The old Yellamanchili Panchayat was abolished with effect from the 15th November 1933.

(*c*) Two separate panchayats have been constituted for the area at the request of the representatives of both the areas.

(*d*) The population of Yellamanchili (kasba) is 5,546 and that of Yellamanchili lanka 694.

Proposals for the appointment of clerks for groups of panchayats to attend to clerical duties.

* 668 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are examining the scheme to appoint clerks for a group of panchayats constituted under the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, as amended, for doing the routine work, such as preparing budgets, drafting administration reports and preparing half-yearly and annual accounts;

(*b*) if so, the source from which their salaries are to be met; and

(*c*) under whose control and direction are those clerks to work?

A.—(*a*) Government have considered the scheme and dropped it.

(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise.

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Disbursement of grants for rural communications and rural water-supply through the agency of the President, District Board, and the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils, respectively.

* 669 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of grant placed at the disposal of the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils for rural water-supply and village roads for the years 1929–30, 1930–31, 1931–32, 1932–33 and 1933–34;

(*b*) the amount spent by the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils for the corresponding years; if the grant has not been spent in its entirety, the reasons for not spending the same;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the grants for village roads are now placed at the disposal of the presidents of district boards;

(*d*) whether the grant for water-supply has been retained to be disbursed by the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils; and

(*e*) whether there is any proposal to place the grant for rural water-supply also at the disposal of the presidents of district boards next year?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Please see the statement[a] appended.

(*c*) Yes; for the current year only.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) No.

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—" May I know, Sir, if the Government are aware that there are a number of incomplete works under the panchayats for which no money has been given to the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils in the current year? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" For the current year, we have not received any complaints."

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—" Are the Government aware that the panchayats are dissatisfied because the Government have not granted any money for village communications? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Road grants were given last year."

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—" May I know whether any grant was placed at the disposal of the Inspector for village communications? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" In the year just coming to a close, the grants being small they were distributed as a special case to the district boards."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I know whether the Government have given grants to the district boards for village roads, only for the last year and not this year? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Usually, we place a certain amount at the disposal of the Inspector of Local Boards and

[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 223 infra.

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Municipal Councils. During the current year, the amount available was so small that it was thought more convenient and desirable to distribute it to the district boards."

Alleged increase of the price of medicines supplied by the Government Medical Stores to local bodies.

* 670 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any increase has been made under the item of bottles, packing, freight, etc., in the matter of supply of medicines, apparatus, etc., from the Medical Stores Depot, Madras, to the local fund hospitals, dispensaries and rural dispensaries;

(*b*) if so, what is the increase made, and whether a copy of the Government Order passed in the matter will be placed on the table; and

(*c*) what is the percentage of the actual worth of medicine supplied from the Medical Stores Depot, Madras, on each indent from the local bodies?

A.—(*a*) & (*c*) Local bodies have in the first instance to deposit in the local treasury concerned the total cost of the indent at priced vocabulary rates of all articles indented for, keeping the total within two-thirds of the money or credit available with them plus 40 per cent to cover the probable cost of bottles and other containers of stores, excise duties, packing charges, transit charges and 10 per cent surcharge on them. After the indent is complied with, the Madras Medical Store Depot will price it taking into account the actual cost of the articles supplied plus the actual cost of the bottles and other containers of the stores, excise duties, packing and transit charges and 10 per cent surcharge referred to above. If a local body has paid an amount in excess of 25 per cent of the net value of the indent at the time of the supply, refund of the excess will be allowed when demanded by the local body. In other cases the excess amount will be shown at the credit of the local body.

(*b*) No increase has been made. The answer to the second part of the question is in the negative.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I know, Sir, when the rate of 40 per cent on the cost of medicines to cover the cost of bottles, etc., was fixed?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Seven years ago, after the war."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I know Sir, whether a copy of the order relating to this will be made available to the House?"

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The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I believe this has been fixed by the Government of India."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, what is meant by 'vocabulary' mentioned in the answer? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Materials in bulk, I think."

15 Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister
n. whether this Government have nothing to do with the fixing of charges in these matters? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" No, Sir. These are fixed by the Stores department and confirmed by the Government of India."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know whether this Government have at least the privilege of addressing the Government of India in such matters? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Certainly; the Government have that privilege."

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Representations, if any, from the Muslims of Chittoor regarding an old Muslim graveyard.

* 671 *Q.*—Mr. S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Muslims of Chittoor have made any representation to Government regarding an old Muslim graveyard in that place; and

(*b*) what action Government have taken on the representation referred to in (*a*)?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

General

Permission of Government to Messrs. Mallikarjunan and Virabhadrayya to open and preside over the First Andhra Provincial Deseeya Viswa-Brahmana Conference to be held at Guntur on 16*th February* 1935.

* 672 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether Mr. K. Mallikarjunan, Personal Assistant to the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils and Mr. B. Virabhadrayya, Deputy Collector, Saidapet, have taken permission of the Government to open and preside over the first Andhra Provincial Deseeya Viswa-Brahmana Conference announced to be held on the 16th February 1935 at Guntur?

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A.—Permission of the Government is not required if rule 7 of the Subsidiary Local Rules in Appendix A to the Government Servants' Conduct Rules is not infringed.

Irrigation

Re-sluicing operations in the Kistna Western division.

* 673 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that re-sluicing operations for irrigation channels are being carried on in the Kistna Western division;

(*b*) whether the Irrigation Advisory Board for the division was consulted on the matter; and

(*c*) if not, what the reasons are for not doing so?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The re-sluicing works now in progress were all sanctioned before August 1934 after a joint inspection by the Public Works Department and Revenue Officers, and after approval by the Collector. Consultation with the Advisory Board was prescribed only subsequently—vide G.O. No. 1676 I., dated 3rd August 1934, which has been placed on the Council table.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know from the Hon. the Revenue Member whether any representation was received from the ryots objecting to the re-sluicing operations?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"Notice."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"May I know what the purpose of this re-sluicing is?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"The main idea, I presume, is the better distribution of the water thereby enabling an increased area being brought under cultivation."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Is this done also to prevent water-leaking out of these sluices?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"Re-sluicing will certainly prevent leakage of water."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know whether the Government consulted the ryots before they changed the sluices?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"The answer, so far as I am aware is, no."

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Land Revenue Administration

Ineligibility of certain Revenue Subordinates to draw travellin allowance for journeys undertaken in connexion with their officia work.

*674 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. th Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the ranks of the subordinates of the Revenue Depar ment are who are not paid travelling allowance, etc., for their journey in connexion with their official work and why;

(*b*) what the rate is of travelling allowance, etc., paid to th village officers and village menials if they appear at criminal or civ courts in their official capacity;

(*c*) whether any representations have been received about th inadequacy of the rates of travelling allowance, etc., paid to them; an

(*d*) if so, what they are and in what way they have bee disposed of?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to rule 12 o page 16 of the Madras Manual of Special Pay an Allowances, Volume I, and to items (1) to (4) of the li on page 50 of the Manual. The reason why these sul ordinates are not given any travelling allowance fo ordinary journeys, other than by rail or steamer withi their sphere of duty is that journeys form part of thei ordinary duties, and their pay has been fixed wit reference to the nature of their duties.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Article 5 of the Special Funds Code, which is available in th Secretariat Library.

(*c*) & (*d*) A representation was received from village officer in 1929, requesting an enhancement of the batta pai for their attendance at courts. The Government di not find sufficient reason to comply with the request fo enhanced allowances.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I know, Sir, why ordi narily no travelling allowance is paid to village officers and menials? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" The answer does not say that n travelling allowance is paid. There are some cases in whicl travelling allowance is paid."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar:—" Sir, in the last sentence o the answer to this question the Government say that they did not fin sufficient reason to comply with the request for enhanced allowances May I know what is meant by 'sufficient reason'? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" 'Sufficient reason' means reasor which in the opinion of the Government is adequate."

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Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Does the answer to clauses (c) and (d) mean that the Government are allowing travelling allowance to the village officers when they are called by tahsildars, etc.? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" It means what it says. They receive travelling allowance in some cases and in some others they do not."

Territorial Changes

Protests against the inclusion of the Telugu parts of the Ganjam district in the new Orissa Province.

* 675 Q.—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received several representations to retain the Telugu parts of the Ganjam district in the Madras Presidency and not transfer them to Orissa to be newly formed; and

(b) what action the Government have taken on these representations?

A.—(a) The Government have received several representations protesting against the proposal to transfer to the new Orissa Province certain parts of the Ganjam district claimed by the Andhras to be predominantly Telugu.

(b) The representations have been forwarded to the Government of India.

Criminal Tribes

Teaching Staff of the Aziznagar Settlement.

* 676 Q.—Swami A. S. Sahajanandam: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many teachers are employed in the Aziznagar Settlement;
(b) how many of them are trained to be teachers;
(c) how many of them are trained to teach industrial subjects;
(d) what vocational subjects are taught there;
(e) how many of the students trained there are employed;
(f) where and in what capacities;
(g) how many of them are Adi-Dravidas;
(h) how many of the teachers employed there belong to the depressed class;
(i) how many of the teachers are those that had their training there;
(j) how many were sent out on different walks of life when Mr. Venkatachariyar was the Manager; and
(k) how many of them were sent under the regime of the present manager?

A.—(*a*) 7 teachers in the Boys' school.
6 teachers in the Girls' school.
1 Carpentry Instructor.
1 Weaving Master.
1 Band Master.

(*b*) All the teachers are trained except one temporary S.S.L.C. untrained mistress. The carpentry, weaving and band instructors are trained in their respective branches of work.

(*c*) Besides the vocational instructors mentioned in clause (*a*), one teacher in the Boys' school has passed the weaving artisan course.

(*d*) Weaving, carpentry, rattan work, net-making, knitting and lace work.

(*e*) & (*f*)—

Number of students trained.	Where employed.	In what capacity.
29	In the Settlement	Weaving industry.
10	Do.	Carpentry.
3	Do.	Sandal industry.
7	Six in the District Board and Labour Schools and one in the Settlement.	Teachers.
2	One in *District Board* and one in settlement.	*Midwives*.
2 3 1	They reside in the Settlement and are unemployed.	Motor driving, Oil Engine Driving and Smithy.
2	*In the Settlement*	Dyeing and printing.
2	In Simpson & Co., Madras.	Motor coach work.

(*g*) All.

(*h*) One.

(*i*) There is no training school in the Settlement. The teachers had their training in Government Training schools.

(*j*) Three boys were sent out for teachers' training.

(*k*) All of these mentioned in the answer to clause (*e*) and (*f*), except the three referred to in the answer to clause (*j*).

Commerce

Importation of foreign rice into the Presidency.

* 677 *Q*.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total quantity of rice imported into this Presidency (i) from Burma, and (ii) from other places like Siam, during last year (figures to be given separately for Burma and for places outside India); and

(*b*) the total quantity similarly imported during 1932 and 1933?

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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Figures are available for official years and they are given below:—

Name of the place.	1932–33.	1933–34.	1934–35 up to 15th January 1935.
	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Siam and Indo-China ..	35,293	80,326	280,293
Burma	417,829	573,708	520,183

Reasons for the small export of rice from Madras.

* 678 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how much of rice has hitherto been exported from Madras since January 1934;

(*b*) what the reason is for the low percentage of export outside India; and

(*c*) whether there are any restrictions preventing large exports of rice?

A.—(*a*) 72,938 tons up to 31st January 1935.

(*b*) Competition from Burma, Siam and Indo-China in the countries to which Madras rice has till now been exported, and the return of a large number of Indians from the Federated Malay States, due to trade depression, have contributed to the low percentage of exports from this presidency. Exports have increased in the last three years.

(*c*) No, except a small export duty of two annas and three pies per Indian maund.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I ask the Hon. the Finance Member with reference to clause (*c*) of the answer whether any import duty is levied on foreign rice coming to this province?"

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"So far as I know, there is none; but I should like to have notice of the question."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I ask whether the Government will see the advisability of cancelling the small export duty on rice?"

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"It is not a matter which rests with this Government."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Would the Hon. the Finance Member consider the advisability of suggesting to the Government of India the levy at least of an equal amount of duty on rice imported into this Province?"

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"This Government have already addressed the Government of India on the question of the rice imports. I do not think we can do anything more than that."

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Communications

Casualties consequent on the crash of the Tata's Air Mail plane plying between Karachi and Madras.

* 679 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the air mail plane carrying foreign mails, from Karachi to Madras, crashed near Guntur in the course of last week;

(*b*) if so, the cause for the crash; and

(*c*) whether, as a result of the crash, any human lives were lost?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) As the hon. Member is aware "Air Craft and all matters connected therewith" is a central subject and the Local Government are merely the agents of the Government of India in the matter. The facts ascertained are that on the morning of the 19th January the aeroplane carrying mails from Karachi to Madras landed at Ganjivaripalli, Markapur taluk, Kurnool district, as the pilot wanted to verify his whereabouts. While taking off, the aeroplane struck a hedge, swung round and crashed.

(*c*) Two villagers, a woman and a child, were hit by one of the wings of the plane and died.

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"May I ask the Hon. the Finance Member to state whether it is a fact that the officer in charge of the aeroplane in question was not an officer fully trained and experienced, but only an officer on probation?"

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—"I am not aware of it, Sir."

Crash of Tata's Air Mail plane at Ganjivaripalli, Markapur taluk.

* 680 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the fact that serious injuries and deaths occurred at Ganjivaripalli, Markapur taluk, owing to the crash of the Tata's Air Mail plane; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to institute an enquiry and what relief they are going to give to the family of the victims of the accident?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 679.

(*b*) A report on the accident received from the District Magistrate of Kurnool has been forwarded to the Government of India for disposal.

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Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"Would the Government of Madras recommend any compensation being paid to the relatives of the persons who died as a result of this accident?"

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—"Compensation is payable presumably by the firm, which employed the pilot. It is therefore for the firm to consider. The Government do not make recommendations to a firm."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I ask whether the Government would institute an enquiry to find out whether it was necessary for the pilot to land in that place and whether he had taken the ordinary precautions to see whether there was any one down below likely to be hit by his landing?"

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—"The accident did not take place in descending, but in trying to ascend."

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Labour

Measures, if any, to relieve unemployment.

681 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what schemes the Government propose to undertake for the absorption of the unemployed?

A.—The matter is under consideration.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* CHITTOOR AND MADRAS BY-ELECTIONS.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"Sir, I beg leave to move under Standing Order No. 19 that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the action of the Government in fixing the Legislative Council by-elections for the Chittoor Non-Muhammadan rural and the Madras City Non-Muhammadan urban constituencies at a very distant date in April next, thus depriving the successful candidates from attending the Budget meetings of this year.

* The Hon. the President:—"I do not think any useful purpose will be served by discussing this motion at this stage, especially when no rules have been transgressed. I therefore disallow the motion."

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* RESETTLEMENT IN SALEM AND TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICTS.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce the following motion under Standing Order No. 19 that the business of the House be adjourned to consider a definite matter of

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urgent public importance, to wit, the hardship caused to the people of Salem by the passing of G.O. No. 258, dated 1st February 1935, of the Revenue Department, with regard to the introduction of resettlement in certain parts of Salem and Trichinopoly districts."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I think the motion is in order. I want to know whether any hon. Member has any objection."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" Sir, the only thing I have to say is that I really cannot see why this is very urgent. I have no objection on other grounds."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" There being no objection, the motion will be taken up for discussion at 4 p.m. to-day."

IV.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1935-36.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The general discussion of the Budget for 1935-36 will now commence."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member reminded us that this is the last Budget he will be presenting to this Council. Sir, in this his last Budget, therefore, he has tried to give a summary of what has been done by him with reference to the finances of this Province. Well, Sir, I should say that within the limits he imposed upon himself, the Hon. Member has been a very industrious and indefatigable Member of Government. He has been doing, under the same limitations and with the powers which he thought ought to be exercised by the Finance Department, very well indeed.

" Sir, he has stated—and throughout his speech he has assumed it—that his purpose and the purpose of the Government as he evidently thinks is to collect all the taxes that have been imposed and to show a balance, a satisfactory balance at the end of the year. That, no doubt, is the ordinary rule for economy in private life. Every person in private life wants to get as much out of his estate as possible and keep as good a bank balance as it is possible for him to do. Sir, if that is the principle that is to be followed in the affairs of a Government, then the Finance Member has probably surpassed those that have gone before him.

" Sir, he himself has stated that these were times of very bad depression, unexampled depression, and that in spite of it, he has been able to collect all the taxes. Whether that is a thing to be applauded or not is a matter that will have to be considered by the people affected. No doubt, when we consider the Province as an estate out of which a certain income has to be derived, and that the Government as the proprietors of that estate ought to keep a sufficient balance at the end of the year, the view expressed above will be justified. But, Sir, at least Members on this side of the House are not prepared to accept that

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position. The Government exists for the people, is the view we all hold. If, on the other hand, it is thought that the people exist for the Government and the revenue that is imposed by the Government has to be collected willy-nilly from the people under all circumstances then, as I said, the Government have done very well indeed. But if the other view is taken, that the Government exists for the people, only such sum as will not leave them in starvation and want should be taken from them. If we are to arrange our finances in a way beneficial to the province and not with an eye only on the hundred per cent collection, then I ought to say that the Government have not come up to the required standard.

" Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member himself admits that most of the time he has been Finance Member the country was passing through unprecedented depression. He admitted that the prices went very low. His Hon. Colleague the Law Member went further and said, in the address which he delivered in Vellore, that the value of properties have gone down by about 50 per cent and that of the produce even more than 50 per cent. That is the state of affairs according to him. But what does the Hon. the Finance Member say? ' I have been able to collect the whole of the revenue that has been imposed ' . . ."

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes :—" I want to know, Sir, where I have made that statement."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar :—" Throughout his Budget speech that is what he has assumed. He has stated throughout his speech that the Government have been able to collect all the taxes and that they have been able to have a large balance. That is his position. These two opinions do not go together. That is my first criticism.

" Talking about the general financial position, I may point out, Sir, that in every country in the world, what has been done at this time of depression like this is to provide a living to the people by finding employment for the unemployed, to try to keep up prices for the agriculturists and to help the merchants in various ways.

" Well, Sir, what has been done here? Except for the one statement that the Central Land Mortgage Bank has been helping the people, 11-3 a.m. I do not find any other single statement in the whole speech of the Hon. the Finance Member regarding the help that has been given to the people. I will refer to the question of the land revenue concessions shortly. Probably I may not be able to touch upon that question to-day but I am sure I shall have another opportunity to speak about that. Excepting these two matters, absolutely nothing has been done to help the people. With regard to land revenue concessions, there is a different story to tell. With regard to the Central Land Mortgage Bank, even that was started some time before the depression set in. In other countries, what have the respective Governments done? Seeing that people have been suffering and that it would not be proper to collect the revenue that may be necessary, they have resorted to borrowing. In all countries

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money has been borrowed and it has been utilized for the giving of immediate relief to the people who are suffering. On the other hand what do you find here? The Hon. the Finance Member is taking credit that he has reduced our indebtedness and not only that, out of the revenue and balances he has been able to finance such big schemes—I mean portions of them, because the other portions were financed from borrowed monies—during the past year, viz., the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme, the Cauvery-Mettur Project and the Kattalai dam. These monies have been spent out of the surplus revenue. That is what he himself says. As I said already, in other countries they have been trying to help the people in all sorts of ways by finding means to give them more employment and more amenities. That is what they have been doing. Instead of that, we are finding here money out of the ordinary revenues for the sort of expenditure referred to above and denying the people even the ordinary amenities and the concessions they have been asking for. That is the position in which we find ourselves to-day. Well, Sir, if I may mention a few things which we have been asking for, I may just refer to the question of education, about the importance of which everybody has been speaking, but nobody has been acting. Aided schools which have been responsible for educating such a large number of people and whose cost is comparatively very much less than that incurred on public schools have been starving during the last three or four years and many of them are closing down. I know, Sir, that several missionary schools have already closed down or are about to close down. With reference to indigenous schools the same position exists. All the aid that has been given to some has been stopped. In some cases it has been reduced by 40 and 50 per cent, with the result that most of the schools find it difficult to make both ends meet. That is the position which has been brought about in the field of education.

" Again, Sir, the Government have appointed a number of committees and also experts and spent money in sending some of them out to study conditions elsewhere. We find an officer was appointed to go into the question of village industries. I believe two people were appointed and they went elaborately into the conditions of industries in every district and made a list of industries dead and dying and those living and submitted a report as to how they can be improved. What has come out of that? No money was found to give effect to any of the recommendations. Only the other day when a question was put, the answer given by the Government was that they were not going to do anything in the matter and if private persons were prepared to do anything they might do so. Again, Sir, a Ceramic expert was appointed and he has submitted his report. Again in reply to a question on this subject the answer of the Government was 'We are not going to do anything in the matter.' A silk expert was sent to Japan to study for a number of months and he made a report but no action has been taken. So also in the case of the oil expert. He has made a study of his subject and submitted a report, but no action has been taken. These are things which the Government themselves initiated but they did not care to

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take any action upon. There are so many things in which the Government ought to have helped the people but they have not and in every case the answer that has been given was 'We have no money and we are not prepared to take up any scheme.' That is the position in which we find ourselves to-day.

"Sir, the Committee presided over by Sir R. Venkataratnam Nayudu to go into the question of secondary and elementary education in this Province sat for a number of months, probably more than a year, and made an elaborate report. What is the action that has been taken on it? Nothing. That is the position in which we are so far as any helpful or ameliorative measures are concerned. This Government has not done anything in that direction. On the other hand they say 'We are solvent and we are able to show large balances.' The question is also to a certain extent relevant whether the Finance Department here has not been dominating the Government and it is a question which the Members on the other side will be better able to answer. So far as we are able to see from outside the Government has been the Finance Member in this Province and whatever the concerned department may think of a certain proposal, there is absolutely no chance of that proposal being sanctioned unless it has got the support of the Hon. the Finance Member. It is really creditable to the Hon. the Finance Member that he has been able to dominate so much and make himself felt. Sir, we are thinking of responsibility. We are thinking that a portion of the present Government, I mean the Transferred Half, is responsible to the people and the other half—the Reserved Half—not responsible to the people. We were speaking the other day that the whole of this Government was going to become responsible under a new form of Government. However much I am prepared to congratulate the Hon. the Finance Member for the position he has acquired and the influence he has been able to exercise by his personal domination, I do think that for democracy this is a dangerous position. I do expect that every department concerned will assert itself and see to the carrying out of what it considers as the proper thing to do. However much it might have been creditable to the Hon. the Finance Member to take this power in the past with regard to the other departments also, I think he should have allowed the heads of other departments to make up their minds and carry on the government of this Province as Members having some responsibility in the matter. That is the position which seems to me to be necessary in a responsible Government. We are going from the old order of things to a new one and I do not know whether this is not the last Budget under the present order of things and whether the next Budget may not be dealt with by a new Council constituted under a new form of Government and under a new set of rules and arrangements.

"Now probably this will be the time to consider what our position has been under the present order of things. The position has been that the Ministers who had some initiative in the beginning practically lost that

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initiative on account of the domination of the Hon. the Finance Member. Here in this Province times without number it has been said that diarchy has been a success. The question arises in what way it has been a success. Is it because the responsible half has been able to make themselves felt by the Government and they have been able to carry out the wishes of the people to the extent to which it is possible, or is it because they have been willing to allow themselves to be led by the other half of the Government or by the person who dominates the other half from time to time and thus allow themselves to be considered as a sort of happy family? To use again the sort of simile which was used by the Hon. the Law Member, is it because the Reserved Half was considered as the father of the household and the other people including the responsible Ministers thought that they were members of the family and that the father's wishes ought to be carried out and in that way a happy family was formed? That is the question which will have to be considered. If that was actually the position as we on this side of the House do contend it is, I do not think the system has worked in this Province at all. All that has been done is there has been an expansion of the old form. Instead of calling the three Gentlemen, responsible Ministers, you may as well call them as Members of the Executive Council and say that they are as much bound by what was thought necessary by His Excellency the Governor or his Council. Whatever it is, the system of responsibility has not at all worked in this Province and the system has had no chance of being worked satisfactorily in this Province and that is why it has been said times without number that the Cabinet in this Province has been a happy family, and they have been carrying on very satisfactorily.

"Then coming to the figures of the Budget, the figures given by the Hon. the Finance Secretary will show that our expenses have gone on increasing as usual. It is claimed that the expenditure in the Transferred Half has gone up by 198 lakhs, whereas in the Reserved Half the excess has been only 174 lakhs. I suppose the object of the classification was to show that the Transferred Half has succeeded in getting more than the Reserved Half. But there is a fallacy in the whole thing. The Reserved departments are departments relating to law and order which were existing before. There is no question of expansion. We had them already. It is only the Transferred departments, which are called nation-building departments sometimes, which require more money and whose expansion is necessary in the interests of the country. If you are going to say that the Reserved departments do not take 50 per cent but only 40 or 45 per cent and that you have allowed 55 or 60 per cent to the Transferred departments, that does not show that the proper thing has been done. As a matter of fact—it may be within the recollection of some Members at least—it was said when the present system of Government was devised that most of the increase in revenue should go to the Transferred departments and I believe my Hon. Friend, the present Law Member, who was then Minister did agree to that at that time. I do not know what he is going to say now.

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" He agreed with us that most of the additional revenue should go to the Transferred departments. That was the claim that was put forward. Has that been done? The figures given show clearly that that rule was not followed at all. A very large portion of the additional revenue has been used for the Reserved departments; for what purpose? I shall not go into that point now. These are the figures given by the Government themselves and not by me. I only want to say that within the last 13 or 14 years, nothing really has been done either by way of decreasing the burden on the people or of giving them more amenities or of improving the condition of the people. 11-45 a.m.

" There was of course some increased allotment under education for the first two or three years. There was also some slight increase in the number of schools and in the number of pupils attending the schools. But soon, the Damocles' sword came upon them; the aid has been reduced or stopped altogether, with the result that we are not better off now.

" With regard to the oft-agitated question of the revenue from drink, the Hon. the Finance Member has now to admit that we have reached the top of the old policy of maximum revenue with minimum consumption; there is no further scope. From the very beginning some of us have been saying that it is not the proper policy, to achieve the result of minimum consumption by imposing higher price for liquor. The Government ought to regulate the manufacture and sale of liquor. Duty is of course levied; but for whose benefit? This question will have to be considered. In a case like this, the Government ought to undertake the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. It is only then that any policy that you adopt towards reduction of the drink evil will have the desired effect. In this matter and in others, the progress that has been made not only during the period of the five years the Hon. the Finance Member has been in charge but also during the last 14 or 15 years, is very little. We can only say that opportunity has been lost and that we have not improved the comforts of the people nor satisfied the wishes of the people, as a result of the administration of the Province for the last 15 years."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro:—" Mr. President, Sir, I offer my congratulations to the Hon. the Finance Member for presenting a balanced Budget, not only a balanced Budget but showing also a surplus amount for the Government to carry on. It is very gratifying, Sir, that during the period he has been in charge of the finances of this Province, he has kept a very vigilant and watchful eye on the revenue and expenditure of this Province. The financial outlook of the year for which the Budget has been presented is not of course very bright; but it is not gloomy if extraneous circumstances had not intervened. This is the last Budget that has been presented to the House by an irresponsible Member of Government; this is the last Budget presented by the members of the Civil Service, able and efficient, who have helped the administration of this Province from the front benches with safety

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and with efficiency. They will disappear with the advent of Provincial Autonomy and their places will be taken up by non-officials and responsible members. But it is satisfactory to note that they will be there to assist and aid the politician with their experience and knowledge of administrative matters. The politician should therefore welcome the valuable services rendered by the Department Secretaries. 'The steel frame of India is becoming very brittle and it remains to be seen how the new recruits to this frame will be able to respond to the demands and how they will adjust themselves in matters, political, administrative and social.

"The test of a budget is not whether it has been balanced or whether it leaves a surplus. I am not one of those who can agree with the hon. Member who spoke before me when he said that there has been wrong budgeting, because the dead weight of debt has been reduced and the credit of the Province has been enhanced by reducing our debts, instead of indulging in speculative projects and schemes. In this matter there can be no difference of opinion; as a private individual, if you want to manage your finances well, you must first get yourself rid of your debt and the debt of your family and then proceed to build new houses or acquire new properties. If the Hon. the Finance Member has been eager to utilize the revenue balance for relieving public debt and for reducing interest thereby, I do not think he has been following a wrong financial policy.

"But my concern to-day is not to go into theories of financial arrangement; my present object is to see what has been done for the man behind the plough, and whether any measures have been introduced into the Budget to advance the ryot materially. I find absolutely nothing; no measures have been adopted for the material advancement and for the well-being of the cultivator, of the peasant proprietor of the land, our Province being mostly agricultural. Look at the way in which our revenue demand has been increasing from the year 1920–21; in that year it was Rs. 687·4 lakhs; it was Rs. 769 lakhs in the year 1931–32, 746 lakhs in the year 1932–33 and Rs. 736 and odd lakhs for the Budget year—a surplus of Rs. 37 lakhs over the revised estimate. Let us look at the expenditure; expenditure on Land Revenue and General Administration rose from 255 lakhs of rupees to Rs. 288 lakhs during the same period; it was Rs. 262·43 lakhs for the year 1933–34. The cost of Administration of Justice rose from Rs. 116·39 lakhs to Rs. 140·29 lakhs. This makes a total of over Rs. 400 lakhs out of our total revenue of about Rs. 1,642 lakhs. The expenditure on this head is taking away nearly one-fourth or one-fifth of the revenue of the Province. The question therefore necessarily arises: what has been done to the small pattadar, to the small cultivator. Recently at Tiruvallur there was an enquiry to find out the extent of economic distress prevailing in the rural areas. The Government have no doubt very generously announced remission of taxes and suspension of kist in certain districts; we are grateful for small mercies, for small

concessions. But we have also to see whether any permanent provision has been made for the relief of rural areas, for the relief of the ryot population. Kistbandi is the great desideratum. Kist is demanded and pressed upon the ryots by District Collectors. The House is aware of the fact that at present the ryot is driven into the hands of the money-lender of the village. At a time when he has to store his paddy, he has to sell it at unfavourable rates; he is driven to the money-lender; he has to borrow money at exorbitant rates of interest; he has to agree to a very low price for his produce; he is thus placed in a very difficult situation. This is the position of the ryot on account of the present kistbandi. No relief is given to the ryot under the present kistbandi. Young District Collectors who are now in charge of the districts are quite a different set of people from the old type of civilians. I hope, Sir, that the Government will issue instructions to see that that kistbandi is so altered as to relieve the hardship of the ryot population, to relieve them from the hands of the money-lender of the village and in the neighbourhood. It is therefore clear that the whole system of our revenue collection, the basis of our revenue system, requires thorough re-examination. The policy of the Government not only with regard to resettlement but also with regard to land revenue has to be examined. At present administration is carried on as in the very very old days. Therefore it is time that a thorough re-examination should proceed on proper lines. I need hardly remind the House and the Hon. the Finance Member of the fact that the Government of India themselves have acknowledged that the present revenue system is of an ancient date and that it requires thorough revision. I hope, Sir, that the Madras Government will take the hint from the speech of the Hon. the Finance Member of the Government of India and make an enquiry into the matter of our revenue policy and revenue administration. Without it, no relief can be given to the rural population. I go further and say that this is the opportune time, when old things are giving place to new; in view of the present economic factors, I think that investigation should be carried on.

"There is great difficulty in estate areas; in Government areas you have got remedies; there is provision for remission of kist; in the zamindari tract there is absolutely no such remedy; in the Estates Land Act there is no provision for giving any remission for failure of crops or for fall in price. At the instigation of agitators in the rural areas and of workers who pretended to work for the ryots, ryots in zamindari areas commuted their rent when prices were high, when the prices were fair and adequate. Now prices have fallen and they feel the pinch. Therefore it is very necessary that there should be readjustment of the relations between the tenants and the zamindars in some areas; there is no statutory obligation on the part of the zamindars to give any remission at all. It is quite necessary that this question should be investigated and that the burden on the zamindari ryot should be immediately relieved. Mr. Patnaik's Bill is not a day too late.

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12 noon. "I know it is being done in some cases, but in order to ward off the agitation of irresponsible people, it is necessary that steps should be taken at once. The problem therefore, as I see it, is not merely a temporary one. It is up to us to see that the economic position of the ryot is made more stable and sustaining. That is the real problem. The ryot, the cultivator or the agriculturist, is left without any work for many months in the year. What is it that the Government have done for them? If you are not able to provide work for the cultivator or the labourer, there is real dissatisfaction in the country. The other day, an experienced industrialist, Mr. Senda from Japan, speaking at the Mysore Chamber of Commerce, stated his view. After touring throughout the whole of Southern India he gave his experience and said that there is ample material in South India which is not utilized by the people, with State aid. He said that if to-day Japan is very wealthy and contented, it is because of the progress and development of cottage industries; it is because that Government had a plan chalked out with regard to industrial and agricultural development and followed it up with State aid. Government's function does not stop merely with collection of revenues; Government should keep an eye even on private enterprise and thereby control the fulfilment of the plan for a certain number of years. You search in vain, in our Budget, to find anything of the kind. Nothing of the kind is being attempted here, to relieve the people in the rural areas. It is necessary that the example of Japan should be copied in this country. It is the primary duty of the Government to prepare a plan and pursue it till the whole scheme can be handed over to private enterprise under State control.

"Sir, a few years ago, this question of development of cottage industries has been raised by me in my Budget speeches; but what is the result? Several officers were appointed, investigations were made with a view to see if any cottage industry could be developed with State aid. Reports were sent in and recorded in the Secretariat; but no action has been taken. What is this Government for? Is it for the purpose of expending Rs. 346 lakhs on revenue collection, on General Administration and Administration of Justice, or is it for the purpose of the material advancement of the people and providing for their comforts? Is it not to raise the standard of living of the general populace and to improve the purchasing power of the people? How can the wealth of a country be developed? See what has been done in Japan. Mr. Senda stated that steps were taken by the Government with a view to see that small industries were developed; he told us how the agricultural plan was worked in Japan, how the State led and the people followed. It is to inspire confidence in the people that the State is there; the State is not something distinct from the people; it is part of the people. It is this policy that has enabled Japan to develop her industries and to occupy the position that Japan occupies to-day in the world trade.

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"Sir, it may be asked, if the land revenue is to be reduced and if provision is to be made for planning an industrial and agricultural development, where is the finance to come from? This is the problem which we, as statesmen, must face. The landlord and the ryot are under great economic stress; their purchasing power has become low. Therefore, other sources of taxation, direct or indirect, must be explored as the poor ryot is no longer able to bear more burdens under the present position. The Taxation Enquiry Committee of course gave some details on this question, but they have become out of date. They have to be re-examined now.

"I shall take up one aspect of our expenditure, viz., the revenue administration. Look at the revenue administration of this Presidency. The cost is three times more than in any other Province. Why should it be so? We are told that the revenue administration in Madras is more efficient than in other Provinces. The bogey of efficiency is costing us enormously. You have in the village service, a firka amin, a firka revenue inspector; then you have the Deputy Tahsildar, a Tahsildar, then an Assistant Collector, a Sub-Collector or a Deputy Collector; then comes the District Collector, and above all these, you have the Board of Revenue. All these contribute towards the enormous cost of the administration. The duties of these officers have been reduced; they are not as multifarious as they were before in the matter of revenue collection. The village officers—low paid as they are—have been working very satisfactorily; the village panchayat and the headman were formerly responsible for the collection; but now the system has been changed with the result that there is a great deal of discontent and dissatisfaction in the villages. This system must be revised so that the village officer and the village headman may be adequately paid. They are worried with the visits of so many officers—such as the Health *Officer, the Tahsildar, Revenue Inspector, Deputy Collector and others.* The expenditure in connexion with the visits of these officers has to be met by the village headman and therefore, there is good deal of dissatisfaction in the rural areas.

"It is gratifying to see that the Government have recently introduced revised scales of pay for the provincial services—both executive and judicial. It remains to be seen what the Secretary of State is going to do with regard to the All-India Services. One noteworthy fact which I want to emphasize. . ."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is time."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"One noteworthy fact which I want to emphasize is this: viz., that the All-India Services which are efficient and talented, are now being confined only to their districts and Province. Their talents should be distributed all over India, because they belong to an All-India Service. This aspect of the case was, I think, referred to the Secretary of State, and I hope the present Governor and the Government will be able to persuade the Secretary

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of State that a wider field of activity should be given to the All-India Service men instead of confining them to the narrow limits of one Province and in a narrow atmosphere."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has exceeded his time-limit."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I am in your hands; I shall finish in two more minutes. Mr. Senda emphasized the other day that the material prosperity and efficient labour conditions in Japan are largely due to the spread of popular education, vocational training. The Government of India recently became conscious of the importance of vocational education. In the years 1924 to 1926 schemes of vocational education were prepared by me; the then Finance Member said they were impracticable, and some officers of the department were not also very enthusiastic; but the whole Government were in favour of them. They were carried out successfully and officers were appointed to supervise the work. But afterwards enthusiasm slackened to such an extent that at present we find only a provision of about Rs. 14,000 under Part II Schemes for the purpose of starting new schools. If vocational education, as visualised by that expert from Japan, is to be taken up in this Province, I am sure greater would be the results.

"Again, Sir, there is no indication in the Budget of any programme or policy in regard to nation-building departments so called. It is an absolute failure. Nor is there anything for the development of the village panchayat system. The abolition of the taluk boards has completely destroyed the effect of popular education. . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. I disallow the hon. Member reading out his speech."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I do not read, Sir. Unless these institutions are restored and their functions are more fully defined, there can be no reality of local self-government in the rural areas; nor could any responsibility be developed in the rural population."

* Mr. H. B. ARI GOWDER:—"Mr. President, Sir, I hasten to assure the Hon. the Finance Member that of all the five-year terms of Finance Members in this Province, his seems to be the longest. He has done his best for the Government of which he is a Member. His speech is, as usual, as dry as dust except for one or two flights of imagination. He referred to the possibility of there being some Member here who supposed it would be possible to restore the land revenue remission within twelve months. As far as we on this side of the House are concerned, we are not aware of anybody supposing anything like that, except perhaps himself in a psychological way. Like an Australian school-boy, he has thrown a boomerang into the air which goes spinning back to him without hitting anybody. Sir, he also made a suggestion, by way of association of ideas, I believe, as to the need for exploring new avenues of revenue to cover up the loss in the excise revenue. It appears he wants the Members to believe that if further avenues are

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explored, there will be a possibility of the excise revenue being reduced in the course of a few years. Those who know the origin of the Entertainments Tax will refuse to walk into his parlour attracted by his words."

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—"May I observe that I never said anything of the kind? I never said anything about 'parlour' as suggested by my friend."

* Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder:—"As I said before, it is by way of association of ideas. I can quote his speech where he suggests the exploration of fresh avenues of revenue. I remember a witness giving evidence to the effect that in order to substitute the loss of revenue consequent on the introduction of partial prohibition, certain taxes such as the Entertainments Tax might be levied. I am reminded of that in this connexion. I hope my friend will refresh his memory about this point. As regards his remarks that the House should agree to fresh taxes with a view to increase the revenues, I agree with him on one point. That is, we should reduce the expenditure considerably by, for instance, abolishing certain departments such as the Services Commission. I believe the Commission can easily go; it is a standing monument of slur upon those responsible for the administration in the districts, upon their integrity to choose their own men. Again, when the Services Commission has selected suitable candidates—let us grant that it selects suitable men—it should naturally expect its nominees selecting their own subordinates. Why does it not do so? There can be only one answer to it, i.e., that it does not believe in its own selection. Further, if it is the object of the Government to give effect to the communal rotation or representation, it can be more easily done without the Commission having anything to do in the matter, and more economically too.

"There is another suggestion which I made some time ago in this House and which has not been given effect to. It is this: I believe in co-ordinating all the services in the districts and putting them under popular control. Co-ordination of all the services such as Revenue, Forest, Police, Excise and all other departments, if carried out successfully, would mean more saving to the Government. I think it is high time that Government take steps towards bringing about that object in view. 12-15 p.m.

"Then as regards the transferred half, Sir, I very much regret to say that the all-round tendency of the Government has been to treat the local bodies as an alien body hostile to the Government. The revenues of the local bodies have been curtailed by a certain legislation here and they are asked to cut their coat according to the cloth as if from any piece of rag they can cut out a coat. The toll-gates fetched a decent income to the local bodies, but with the abolition of the tolls, the sources of revenue of local bodies have been greatly depleted. Either Government should see their way to make adequate compensation for this loss or restore the tolls.

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"As regards the Minister for Development and Agriculture, I think the Hon. Minister has done full justice to himself.

"As regards the Minister for Education and Excise, he is a cheerful soul; he sleeps better; he has a more easy time of it than even my friend Sir Patro when he was in the Ministry. I hope the time will not be long in coming when he will have to bestir himself and see what he could do to satisfy the public demand or else he would see his way to vacate his seat. The demand for some reform in the Excise policy is considerably more than ever before, although for the time being there is a certain amount of silence. We feel very strongly over it not only because nothing has been done by that department but also because no compensation has been made to the districts from which excise revenues of the Government have been derived although that was the object which we are asked to keep in view."

* Mr. W. K. M. Langley:—"Mr. President, Sir, before I make a few observations on the subject of the Financial Statement presented to us, I should like on behalf of the Group that I represent to express our very sincere congratulations to the Hon. the Finance Member on the successful manner in which he has carried through the arduous labours which have been thrown upon him during the past five years. His period of office has coincided with the greatest slump known to living men and we as business people know only too well what a situation he must have been faced with. We can therefore in all sincerity offer him our most hearty congratulations not only in having seen through these five years but in having seen them through so successfully. This is neither the time nor the place to estimate the career of the Hon. the Finance Member: I will therefore content myself with remarking that though in matters of finance we all know him to be an austere man, future generations of finance members will have the best cause to rise up and call him 'blessed.'

"Thanks to the Finance Member, we have grown accustomed to a satisfactorily balanced budget during the past five years, but when I turn to the future I am afraid I must view it with considerably less confidence. Looking over the various heads of revenue it is difficult to see how our total revenue can be increased in the future; and there is grave danger that unless new sources of revenue may be discovered it will steadily decrease. This would indicate the necessity for serious reductions in expenditure. I do not propose on this occasion to animadvert on the usefulness or otherwise of what are usually called the nation-building departments. I will content myself with remarking that any serious curtailment in expenditure can only have one result which would be the definite lowering of the standard of life and living in this Presidency. Turning now to the items which go to make up the total revenue, there really seems to be only one—and the Hon. the Finance Member very wisely laid stress upon it—which gives us considerable cause for satisfaction and hope. I refer to the newly-formed Hydro-Electric Department. That seems to me to be the one bright spot in the present Budget and one which I feel will shine brighter for

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many years to come. In fact I consider that Major Howard and his department represent one of the greatest assets that this Presidency possesses at the present moment. I sincerely hope that when the major works on which he is now occupied are completed some form of Electricity Board may be created in this Province with Major Howard as its Chairman in order not only to advise upon and find new uses for electric power but also to see that what I may call the retail distribution of electricity in this province is properly and efficiently controlled. If any hon. Member is a reader of 'The Economist' I am sure he must have observed that even in England the retail distribution of electricity is far from perfect and there is great waste and lack of co-ordination. Consequently I feel that if there is cause for comment as to lack of efficiency and economy in these matters in the United Kingdom, it is extremely unlikely that things will be any the better and will probably on the other hand be much worse in this country.

"To turn again to the total revenue, I must again remark as I did last year that two heads of revenue provide the greater part of the total. Speaking in round figures, out of a total revenue of 16½ crores, *no less than 11½ crores are derived virtually from agriculture, that is* to say 7½ crores is derived from land revenue and the balance of 4 crores from what might be described as the bibulous propensities of the agricultural labourer. More serious than this to my mind is that the figures had remained practically stationary in respect of land revenue since 1920. Actually it is amazing that this should be so and when one reflects on the course of prices since 1920 and when one looks at prices obtaining now as compared with the early twenties, one can only come to the conclusion that even to obtain the existing revenue the agricultural industry of this Province has in the process been virtually bled white. Now regarding this matter of land revenue I feel compelled to make something in the nature of a public recantation. Even politicians can I presume live and learn. Now it seems to me to be a thoroughly vicious principle that there should be any form of taxation, and more particularly that which brings in most of the revenue, which can lend itself to being subject to sudden and unexpected reductions on a large scale. *That seems to me to represent* an absolutely wrong basis of taxation altogether as surely any tax should posses in itself the element of being capable of adjustment according to circumstances. But a tax which is liable to be reduced by a chance vote of this Council by fifty lakhs or as was suggested the other day by an amount of two crores must, I maintain, have something definitely unsound about it. It also seems to me to open up very dangerous possibilities in the future. There may be some members present who know the Parable of the Unjust Steward. This is a Bible parable which those brought up in Christian ethics have always found it difficult to understand. It was however originally propounded in the Orient and it is in the Orient that one can better understand it. It seems to me that future Finance Members will be faced with the danger of a very severe temptation—I do not suggest

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any corruption of any kind—when they may find themselves pressed as a matter of political expediency to placate some strong agricultural interest or movement to such an extent that they may be tempted to call that interest together and say 'take thy Bill, sit down quickly and write fifty.' That seems to me an extremely dangerous though possible situation with which some future Government or Minister may be faced. I am therefore in entire agreement with my Hon. Friend, the Knight from Ganjam that a thorough investigation is called for into the whole incidence of land revenue in this Presidency in order to see whether it could be put on some more satisfactory basis, a basis which will render it free from the danger to which I have alluded.

2-30 p.m. "I might now turn to considering the possibilities of other sources of revenue. And when I come to this I find myself faced by only one conclusion which is that this Province as represented by all sides of this House should do a little more towards making its weight felt with the Government of India. The reason for this is that the Government of India control under the new Government of India Bill most of the profitable sources of indirect taxation and I feel confident that it is only from indirect taxation that we can materially increase our revenues. I know that on theoretical grounds such taxation is not generally approved and only last week 'The Hindu' in the course of a very interesting leading article on the subject of taxation took exception to such taxes. Nevertheless if I were a betting man, which I am not, I would be prepared to bet that the future autonomous Government of India will within a very short space of time at least double the existing Salt Tax. There are also other methods of indirect taxation such as the recent Excise on Matches which promise to yield considerable revenue. I maintain therefore that it is up to the Government of Madras supported by all sections of opinion in this Province to make its claim to a considerable share in the produce of such taxation.

"These are merely one or two suggestions, but in my opinion they do not get to the root cause of the present troubles and difficulties which we are all experiencing in connexion with the making of Budgets and which the agricultural interests are feeling more than anybody else. I maintain that the root cause of the trouble is the absolutely insane—I cannot call it anything else—policy of the Government of India who at the bidding of small groups of industrial millionaires principally in Bombay and Calcutta are milking the great agricultural Provinces such as Madras, Burma and the Punjab for the benefit of this small handful of industrialists. The time at my disposal does not allow me to show how the agricultural interest is taxed right and left in obedience to this policy. But one thing is obvious and that is that this policy can only mean restriction of markets and this falls more heavily on agricultural than on any other interest. Most of us have been brought up on the idea that you should love your neighbour, but this economic nationalism is the exact opposite and seems to lay down that you should hate your neighbour. Until this system is met and defeated one can never hope to see the World recover from its present

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state and I was very glad to see that the Hon. the Finance Member pressed that point of view in his speech. In this connexion I might be permitted to read a brief extract from the speech recently made by His Excellency the Viceroy in Calcutta to the Associated Chambers of Commerce. He said:—

'It is clear to me that the prosperity of India must, for many years to come, depend upon her ability to increase her sales abroad of the raw materials and foodstuffs she so abundantly produces. This can, to some extent, be done by promoting the efficiency of agriculture, marketing and transport; but it depends much more upon the extent to which other nations are willing and able to accept India's products, and this, in turn, depends to a very considerable extent on India's willingness to accept their goods in return. Acceptance of imports is not necessarily an evil. It may mean increasing capacity on the part of other countries to buy India's goods.'

"That, Sir, seems to me to state the whole case in a nutshell and if at the dictation of a small coterie of millionaires of Bombay and Calcutta you are to exclude all the imports which used to come from other countries, then you cannot expect to find markets for the agricultural produce of this Province much of which depends on foreign markets. I will just quote one single instance of the effect of this policy. Some time ago at the instance of the Tariff Board the Government of India imposed an enormous protective tariff on imported gold thread although at the time already about 80 per cent of this article was produced in India. This tax had the effect of almost entirely stopping the importation of the French article. What was the immediate result? It was that the Marseilles market for groundnuts which imported enormous quantities from Madras was by a penal tariff virtually closed and it was generally understood at the time that this was a direct case of retaliation because of the entirely unnecessary protective duty placed on gold thread which is at best purely a luxury article. That is merely one instance. But until this constant retaliation against one another, between country and country, is done away with, it seems to me that there can be no relief for the agricultural interests of Madras; and I therefore maintain that the interests of agriculture in this Province require that Madras should make its weight very strongly felt in the Councils of the Government of India to induce a more sane tariff policy. If such a policy is decided upon, it will have no greater supporters than my own constituents who are all agriculturists and who with the possible exception of my friends from Tanjore are more highly organized than any other agricultural interests."

* Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"Mr. President, Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member has presented a rosy picture of the result of his five years' labour. Even at this time of unprecedented economic depression, he has been able to maintain the equilibrium of the Budget and he is in a position to say with pardonable pride that the financial position of this Province, so far as it can be seen from his point of view, is safe and sound. He points out how since 1932–33, 1 crore and 13 lakhs have been allotted for Part II Schemes and a little more than 2 crores of rupees have been given away as land revenue concessions. He has been able

to restore several items of retrenchment enforced in 1931–32, including of course the cut in salaries. Since 1928–29 he has been able to advance from the accumulated balances a sum to the extent of Rs. 249 lakhs for remunerative capital expenditure. Still, we shall have at the end of this year a balance to the extent of Rs. 214 lakhs and at the end of next year a balance of 142 lakhs. Our debt position is strong. With all this the Finance Member has found it possible to present to us a Budget which provides for a surplus of 4·85 lakhs.

" Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member is the strong man in the Cabinet, before whose iron will every other Member has to bend and adjust his Budget to his dictation. He claims that he is giving a favourable start to the new Constitution. He has had the satisfaction of seeing that, during his regime, schemes of far-reaching importance, such as the Pykara Scheme, Cauvery-Mettur Scheme and the Kattalai Scheme and others have reached completion. If the scheme of broadcasting comes to be established in this Province, as I hope it will soon be, the credit will mainly go to him, because it was he that took up this subject with enthusiasm and prepared the ground for it. His name will ever be remembered as the man who had the vision to see the far-reaching potentialities of broadcasting and to do everything possible to have it established in this Province.

" I have said, Sir, that the picture presented to us is a rosy one. But, there is another side to this picture. How has this satisfactory state of finances been made possible? It has been made possible not by giving land revenue concession to the extent asked for by the people and their representatives here, but by ruthlessly collecting revenue to the last possible pie, by imposing resettlements even at this time of unprecedented depression and by not giving money to the extent that is necessary to meet the needs and requirements of this Province in nation-building departments.

" What is the relationship which the Budget bears to the economic condition of the people? The test of good Government lies not merely in presenting balanced or surplus Budgets but also in securing the well-being and prosperity of the people who pay the revenue. I want to ask whether the people who pay the bulk of the revenues of this Province are growing prosperous. Has their average annual income per head increased? Has there been a rise in production? To what extent has illiteracy been reduced and public health improved? It is by such tests that a Government has to be judged. If you look at the growth of revenue, which can be taken as an indication of the prosperity of the Province, we find that from 1920–21 to 1934–35 the total revenue of this Province has not made any considerable increase. It was 1,587 lakhs in 1920–21 and it is only 1,602 in the present year. This revenue is most inadequate for meeting the huge wants of this Province.

" The administrative machinery is not designed to improve production in this Province. According to the census of 1931, the population

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of this Province has increased to a considerable extent, but has production increased correspondingly? Has illiteracy been removed? Has food-supply increased or has the growth of population outrun the means of subsistence? The agricultural population is the mainstay of the economic structure of the country. But these people get little sympathy or aid in improving their condition. The Royal Commission on Agriculture have said that all the resources at the disposal of the State should be brought to bear on the problem of rural uplift. What do we see here to-day, Sir? The masses are sunk in abject poverty and ignorance to an extent which is without any parallel in any of the western countries. Literacy has made very little real progress. Unemployment and under-employment are rife and the income of the people from agriculture and industries is very very low indeed as compared with what it is in other progressive countries. The people are groaning under the burden of heavy taxation. They are in heavy debt.

"All the progressive countries of the world are moving rapidly towards industrialization; but in India, we see that the people are taking more and more to agriculture. Modern machinery and scientific methods of agriculture have not yet been introduced to any appreciable extent. Wheat grown in Canada is brought to Karachi and sold at prices much cheaper than the price obtaining in Sind; Siamese rice is imported into this Presidency and is selling at a lower price. This is not merely because the methods of agriculture are primitive but also because we have no control over protective tariffs.

"It has been truly said that if we had only control over protective 12— p.m
tariffs and railway freight rates, we could bring fabulous wealth to India within a decade. The Hon. the Finance Member at the close of his speech on the Budget admits the weakness of our position which is due to the absence of elastic revenues. It is true. The Simon Commission have also pointed out in their report that while in the centre there are expanding sources of revenue, in the provinces we have inelastic sources of revenue, though we have to meet increasing expenditure particularly in the nation-building departments. And the Hon. the Finance Member rightly observes that the time for discovering fresh sources of revenue to meet the vast needs of this Province has come. How is Government going to get additional revenue in future? This Government has not made any special effort to build up the industries of this Province or to build up the material prosperity of its people. Other progressive countries have had recourse to extraordinary measures. What Soviet Russia has done by means of its first five-year plan and the second five-year plan which is now in operation for reducing illiteracy and for building up its industries is really marvellous. No nation, Sir, can grow rich merely by means of agriculture. We must take to industries and manufactures which are much more remunerative occupations. Government must undertake, and that very soon, a scheme of planned economy for this country for improving agriculture, for developing industries, for providing new avenues of employment to the people and for making

this country self-contained as far as possible. Sir Visweswarayya in his remarkable book called Economic Planning for India, has pointed out how with a ten-year plan for India and a five-year plan for the Provinces the income of the country can be doubled within a decade. In 1925 a Committee over which Sir Visweswarayya presided, prepared a plan of economic survey for the country but the Government of India took no action on it. Sir Arthur Salter of the League of Nations has also submitted a scheme of economic organization for India in 1931. Government are moving very very slowly in this matter. It seems to be the policy of British statesmen to retain India as long as possible as a market for British manufactures and this they propose to do by using the political power which they have. Even under the new Constitution India will not be free to build up her industries and wealth and achieve economic salvation. It is only if this country gets responsible Government and gets full financial responsibility that we shall find it possible to make real economic advance and save this country from the ruin which is facing it."

Rao Sahib Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI spoke in Telugu and the following is the English rendering of the speech:—

"Mr. President, Sir, I have great pleasure in further congratulating the Hon. the Finance Member for his surplus Budget in these hard days of wholesale economic depression. By way of general discussion over the Budget, I wish to offer a few remarks. I am grateful to you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to make a statement on a subject which I consider to be of vital importance to the voiceless Viswa-Brahmana community of this Province in particular and the backward classes in general at the present time. I strongly oppose the G.O. No. 47, Law and Education Department, dated 6th January 1934, as it deprives what little help my community and the other backward classes were enjoying at the hands of the Government regarding fee concessions. Though this measure was recommended by the Retrenchment Committee, it affects the educational progress of the masses at large and ultimately causes disaffection towards the Government.

"By the way, Sir, let me crave your indulgence, when I say that though I gave notices of cut motions to Demand No. XI to the Budgets for 1933–34 and 1934–35 to provide the members of my community with seats on local bodies, unfortunately they did not reach the debate of the House and as such I was forced to await an opportune time to bring the grievances of my community for the kind consideration of the Hon. Members.

"I have been requesting the authorities to confer the same privileges upon the members of my community as they were pleased to bestow upon the so-called Depressed Classes. In this connexion, may I appeal to the Hon. the Member for Revenue to provide to the members of my community due representation in the future legislatures also.

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" Sir, at the outset I wish to heartily congratulate the Hon. Sri Raja Ravu Swetachalapati Ramakrishna Ranga Rao Bahadur Varu, Raja Sahib of Bobbili, Chief Minister to Government, over his yeomen services rendered so far to the cause of Local Self-Government by the removal of many a defect in the administration thereof. Though a born aristocrat, he does not hesitate to mix up with and befriend the poor and the downtrodden. I am sure during the term of his office his kind hand is seen in every progressive act done by and in every nation-building activity of the Government and in the uplift of the backward and depressed classes.

" Now, Sir, the present economic status of my community is positively bad unlike in the days of the ancient sovereigns—Hindu or Muhammadan—when the community was patronised by the State. But, the unfortunate policy of indifference to the indigenous industries originated by the commercial rulers of the East India Company and continued by the Crown Government to this day has brought about poverty and indebtedness amongst the members of the great artisan classes and finally they are unable now to make both the ends meet, in spite of the weighty pledges given by Her Imperial Majesty Queen Victoria the Great and Their Imperial Majesties Edward VII and King George V, that equal treatment would be accorded to all communities alike.

" The well-being of the artisans who are 8 per cent of the general population, the backbone of the nation who engaged in the basic industry of arts are hungry and ill-fed and are now learning to look up to the rulers, the custodians and guardians of their interests, for securing early relief from their wants and grievances. It is a well-known fact that according to their creed, confessions, formalities, tests and so forth they form a separate class by themselves. As such they deserve special treatment at the hands of the Government.

" And then, Sir, with due respect and humble submission to you, I beg leave to say a word or two about the primary object underlying my remarks, i.e., preferential treatment to the members of my community in respect of certain concessions.

" First, to provide facilities for direct recruitment to public services to the members of my community.

" Secondly, to extend the age-limit enabling them to appear at the Services Commission examinations and to join appointments.

" Thirdly, to award educational concessions such as Government scholarships or stipends for general and technical education.

" Lastly, to grant waste lands and house-sites on ordinary darkhast rules and to allot liberal sums of money separately, for ameliorative work to this community also, through the Labour department, without prejudice to the arrangements made for the depressed classes.

"This is a straight and simple demand. I only request the Government to consider it to be their duty to lend their helping hand to my community in the full implications of the proposal.

"It is not out of place to reiterate here the fact that my community which is backward in education, low in status, devoid of influence and scattered throughout the country cannot secure representation by means of election. I would therefore urge upon the Hon. the Chief Minister the necessity for early legislation amending the present Acts so as to provide for reservation of seats in respect of communities which cannot be returned through election in general and my community in particular, as requested through a resolution adopted at the Fifteenth Andhra Provincial Viswabrahmana Conference which was held at Rajahmundry, East Godavari district, on 8th January 1933, under the auspices of the All-India Viswakarman Liberal Federation and under the presidentship of Brahma Sri Kasi Ramamurti Garu of Vizianagaram city, Vizagapatam district. I pray that the Hon. the Raja Sahib of Bobbili will see his way to comply with this request and win the everlasting gratitude of my community and other backward classes of the Hindu fold.

"In conclusion, I beg to offer my heartfelt thanks to the Hon. the Home Member for his selfless work in the uplift of the backward classes."

*Mr. R. FOULKES:—"Mr. President, Sir, I willingly join the chorus of congratulations which the Hon. the Finance Member has so deservedly received from all sides of the House. It must be very gratifying to him to be able to present such a budget as a parting gift to this Province where he has spent practically the whole of his useful career. While fully appreciating the value of his achievement, it is in no carping spirit that I want to make a few suggestions and I feel sure that he will not accuse me of finding fault with him.

"I am sorry that so small a sum has to be allotted year after year to the important service of Public Health, more especially to a branch of it which has been much neglected hitherto in the provincial budgets. I refer to sanitation and particularly to village sanitation. Village sanitation is of such vast importance to the country that it is difficult to understand how it has been so greatly starved in the past. We are content, apparently, to think that it is one of the duties that local boards must attend to, and we leave it at that. If they do nothing, we abuse them for their failure to carry out one more obligation, and there it ends.

"But how unfair it is and how imprudent from the national standpoint that this tremendous burden should be thrown on local boards with their almost bankrupt finances. What I want to know is why should not Government itself deal with this vital subject adequately? Surely it is much more of a national than a merely local duty to safeguard and improve the health of the nation. The whole trend of modern civilization is to find means to add to the happiness of the

people, and yet of what use is it to spend millions in providing them with all the amenities of modern life if we fail to give them the greatest boon of all, which is Health? We are so accustomed to dirt and disease, and the terrible loss of life from epidemics caused by them that we fold our arms and say that we cannot help it. But if we consider the matter a little more carefully, it is easy to prove that we *can* prevent a very great deal of it. What is chiefly required to begin with is a *great crusade against the appalling apathy towards all subjects dealing* with public health and sanitation. We require faith in the efficacy of schemes to stamp out diseases that can be eradicated and we require much larger sums of money to carry out those schemes. Can money be better spent?

"No one familiar with life in our villages needs to be told that sanitation does not exist in them, and that the people left to themselves show no desire whatever to introduce any improvement. Mr. Gandhi said recently that the Indian villages are dungheaps. Let me read to you what he says:

'Members of a family will keep their own home clean, but they will not be interested in their neighbours. They will keep their courtyard clean of dirt, insects and reptiles but will not hesitate to shove all into the neighbour's yard.

'As a result of this want of corporate responsibility our villages are dungheaps. Though we are an unshod nation we so dirty our streets and roads that for a sensitive person it is painful to walk along them barefoot. It is difficult to get clean drinkable water in village wells, tanks and streams. The approaches to an ordinary village are heaped with muck and rubbish.'

Who will deny the truth of this terrible indictment? Can Indians sit still any longer and do nothing when Mr. Gandhi himself exposes to the whole world the condition of Indian villages? We cannot escape our own responsibility for this age-long state by casting the blame on the Government. It is only recently that science is showing how these things can be remedied. What are we going to do about it?

"I want to show you now that there is no need to despair and that it is easily possible to do a very great deal to improve the sanitation of our villages. I want also to give you an instance of at least one local board that is making an attempt to study village sanitation seriously in order that you may see how hopefully the subject may be treated and as an example of what can be done. I am referring to the Madura District Board of which I was President for nearly fifteen years, and I trust that you will forgive the personal note which I cannot avoid. This Board has been spending from 20 to 30 thousand rupees per annum for the last seven or eight years chiefly from its own funds in the study of village sanitation, and it may now be said that its efforts have been attended with a great deal of success.

"Every modern scheme of village sanitation must be based on the use of the latrine, and I will show you presently why it must be so. Taking that for granted, the problem facing us was, first, to construct a sufficient number of them and next to induce the people to use them —both formidable tasks. To make them still more difficult we were met by much opposition and ridicule from the outset, chiefly from

people who ought to have known better. It was held that it would be quite impossible to make villagers use latrines, that we could not change their habits, that it was a waste of money to try and much more of such stuff. Our reply was that no one had tried and with the simple faith of fanatics we persevered.

.m. "On the other hand, we must gratefully acknowledge the help and encouragement we received from men, like Col. A. J. H. Russell, I.M.S., Mr. Westerdale, Sanitary Engineer, Dr. Kendrick of the Rockefeller Foundation and Dr. Heiser, one of the Directors of that Institution and probably one of the greatest authorities in the world on certain aspects of sanitation. Incidentally, you will be interested to learn what he told me recently, that he had succeeded in persuading the Egyptian Government to take up bore-hole latrines and that it was largely due to the reports of the work done in the Madura district. After nearly two years of experiments with various types of latrines, it was decided that the bore-hole was best suited to our purpose on account of its cheapness and the rapidity with which it can be constructed. In the meantime, every form of propaganda that could be thought of was employed to induce the people to use latrines. Here we found Boy Scouts most useful. Parties of them used to go round the village in the early mornings singing specially composed songs in praise of latrines. By the time, therefore, the latrines were ready, the people were fully prepared to try them, and ever since there has been no difficulty whatsoever in this respect thus proving how utterly false the prophets were. Bore-hole latrines are now very popular in this district. Over six thousand latrines have been already constructed including those that have been re-bored. People even in far away villages are clamouring for them. But, alas! We cannot construct them quick enough for want of funds. The best proof of their popularity is, I think, the fact that the people are willing to contribute towards their cost out of their own pockets, which they are very reluctant to do even in the case of wells and roads.

"In every village, there are certain small areas which are resorted to regularly by the people for the purpose of nature. It is in these places that our greatest danger lies, and no effort should be spared to eradicate them. They are the breeding grounds of millions of hook-worm, a little parasite which infests the bowels and causes a disease known as Ankylostomiasis. This disease is dangerous because it greatly lowers the vitality of its victims, and, consequently, their powers of resistance to other diseases. The Rockefeller Foundation found that 98 to 100 per cent of the population in various localities all over South India are infected, with hook-worm. Although the parasite is easily got rid of by drugs which are cheap and easily administered, this method is useless as a permanent remedy, because a person can be infected again immediately after he is cured. That is because the attack comes from the ground, and through the bare-foot. It is indeed easy to contract infection by merely walking over polluted ground with bare feet.

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"As you would expect, these village resorts contain the bacilli of many other diseases as well, such as cholera, and all those that originate in the bowels. Some of the bacilli are washed by rain into our drinking water supplies, wells, channels, etc., and thus give rise to what are called water-borne diseases. Hence the origin of some of our worst epidemics, with all their appalling loss of life. You will now see, Sir, why it is so important to abolish the open-air resorts at present so common in the villages, and to substitute for them bore-hole latrines which can be kept clean and sanitary. This is the only effective remedy for hook-worm, which we have got to stamp out at all costs. If we can eradicate hook-worm and all its attendant evils, we shall get immensely greater returns for the money we spend on public health; our hospitals will be less congested, and we shall have added enormously to the happiness of the people.

"There was a very interesting circumstance which aided us very greatly in introducing latrines, and it deserves to be mentioned, to show that luck sometimes favoured us. We were told that Mr. Jacob of the Madura Company had imported into Tuticorin from Ceylon a tiny insect which lived on and destroyed the prickly-pear bush. I think it was the Hon. the Finance Member himself who gave me this information. This is the *Dactylopius tomentosus*, otherwise known as the wild cochineal. We immediately sent two or three coolies to Tuticorin to fetch some of the infected plant, which was then cut up into small pieces, and sent to all parts of the district simultaneously, with the help of bus-owners, free of cost. Overseers and road-maistris had instructions to scatter the pieces amongst prickly-pear bushes along the road-sides. The insect spread with astonishing rapidity, and in about two years there was hardly any prickly-pear left in the district. The consequences have been very far-reaching. First, we have to a great extent got rid of this pest. Secondly, hundreds of acres of good land hitherto over-run with prickly-pear have been brought into cultivation, and, lastly, the former privacy enjoyed by the women around the villages has completely disappeared. The immediate result of the last was a greatly increased demand for latrines, which we are still trying to cope with very inadequately. It will interest you to know that these operations cost only the railway fare of the coolies to and from Tuticorin and the train charges of the baskets of prickly-pear, which they were sent to fetch, or a total of Rs. 42.

"I am not a doctor, Sir, nor am I attempting to give you a scientific lecture on sanitation. My object is to make hon. Members realize the amount of suffering and misery that is being caused every day by preventible diseases, and that it is easily within the bounds of possibility to eradicate a good many of them. I am afraid that my statements will be met with considerable scepticism, but fortunately I can point to the work that has been done in the Madura district as a concrete example of what has actually been achieved, and this can be seen by any one with his own eyes if he will take the trouble to go there.

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"Is it not strange that in spite of so much that is being written and said about 'village uplift' at the present day, so few people realize that there can be no 'uplift' without sanitation? No one ever refers to this vastly important subject. I am almost inclined to rank Public Health above Education in relative importance, for some time to come; for what is the good of teaching sick children? And yet the allotment for education is somewhere about 180 lakhs, while that for Public Health in all its branches is only 12 lakhs.

"If therefore, I can convince hon. Members that it is in our power to remove an enormous amount of suffering and unhappiness in *our villages by proper attention to sanitation, and if I can touch the* heart of the Hon. the Finance Member, it may not be too late even this year to increase the allotment for Public Health, so that we may set to work seriously and immediately on plans to introduce everywhere real Village Sanitation."

The Council then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (3 p.m.).

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have to congratulate the Hon. the Finance Member for presenting a Budget with a certain amount of surplus. No doubt remissions have not been given to the extent the ryots expected. One of the arguments advanced by the Hon. Member for Revenue and the Hon. the Finance Member was that if they gave such remissions it would be impossible to run the administration. But they have failed in their duty to improve the finances in certain respects. For example, our Provincial Government is indebted to the India Government to an extent of over 200 lakhs and they pay roughly 6 to 6½ per cent interest on this amount to the Government of India. Now the present interest rate is only 3½ to 4 per cent. I do not know why the Madras Government has not floated a loan at a low interest to repay the past arrears and thereby save about 5 to 6 lakhs. If the Government of India has not accepted this proposal, there is the appellate authority, the Secretary of State to whom the matter should have been taken and a decision obtained one way or the other. I want to know whether the Madras Government has taken this matter to the Secretary of State. I understand that the India Government has given concessions to some other provinces, such as the United Provinces and the Punjab. I do not see any reason why similar concessions should not be extended to Madras. Probably it is due to the fact that our budget shows some surplus, and so the India Government thought that they need not give any concessions to our province. *In this connexion I am reminded of a Telugu proverb which* means 'The man who chewed is inferior to the man who swallowed the whole thing.' If that is so, the Finance Member has made a blunder *in not granting proper remissions to ryotwari lands.*

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" Then, Sir, some years ago we passed certain retrenchment proposals. But those proposals were introduced for the subordinate services alone. So far as the gazetted posts go, they are not affected at all. I do not know why they have left free the District Officers, the High Court Judges and also the I.C.S. men that are newly coming into the service. No doubt these things are in the hands of the Secretary of State. But is it not the duty of the Madras Government to write to the Secretary of State explaining our financial condition and persuade him to accede to our proposals? If they have written, what is the result of the correspondence? If that had been done we would have saved some lakhs of rupees which could have been utilized in granting remissions. Then there would be no ground for saying that if we had given 200 lakhs as remission it would be impossible to run the administration.

" It has been said against us that we are urging only grant of remissions without making any constructive suggestions for improving our finance. Here is a constructive suggestion which the Government might take up and act upon. I am not anxious that the whole budget should be upset by granting remissions.

" Another thing I want to touch upon is the salary cut. The cuts in pay of all the high paid officers are restored but the poor teachers of aided schools were left alone, and the village officers also were not given any kind of relief. The argument advanced is that they are numerically a very large body, and even a concession of one or two annas which would be nothing for them will cost the Government a good deal. But I will say that one anna in the income of a man earning Rs. 10 will form the same percentage as Rs. 5 in the income of a man drawing some thousands. So that argument is not very sound. Therefore once they adopt the principle of giving relief to the subordinate services, they must give relief equally to all the services under the Government. There must be no differentiation, no partiality.

" The Hon. the Finance Member has stated in his speech that our Budget is not elastic. How can it be? What new schemes have the Government introduced for the benefit of the people? No doubt, the Hydro-Electric Scheme is proving a paying concern and we congratulate the Government for it. But why should they not start some other schemes which will bring in more money to the exchequer? For instance, so many contracts are being given to various merchants. Take the electrical contract. Why should they not ask the various local bodies to take up this work and earn some profits? Similar remunerative enterprises the local bodies may be encouraged to take up.

" Then, from 1920 onwards for some years we were paying about Rs. 380 lakhs to the India Government. We thank the India Government for relieving us of this big burden. But has the relief reached the masses? It has gone only to the relief of the subordinates of Government. It has not benefited the general public. As a matter of fact, out of Rs. 1,600 lakhs we are getting as income we spend roughly

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about Rs. 700 lakhs under various heads; by way of establishment, for the All-India service, in Madras, about 85 lakhs, for the provincial service, about 86·75 lakhs, for the subordinate services about 400 lakhs, but on village officers only 120 lakhs. Then there are stationery and printing and travelling allowances, etc., which swallow about 70 lakhs under establishment. But the Government are insisting on the local bodies that they should not spend on establishment more than a certain percentage. I wish the Government also should adopt the policy they preach.

"One other matter. The Hon. the Finance Member has suggested that we should resort to some additional taxation in order to run the future reformed Government. Before I take up his suggestion, I want to advise the Government to go as far as they can in making a certain amount of reduction in the expenses of general administration. If after doing that they think of additional taxation, then there would be no bitterness. Again, so many taxes are being introduced every year. Whatever tax was newly imposed must be earmarked for the benefit of the people.

"I would suggest that a corruption enquiry committee on the lines of that now working in the North-West Frontier Province is necessary to investigate into the conduct of Government servants as well as non-officials. I do not want that non-officials should be let off and Government officials only should be subjected to this enquiry. (The Hon. *Mr. C. A. Souter: Hear, hear*). All the employees under local bodies should be subjected to this enquiry, and in that way much relief may come to the public. So the Government should set up such a committee at a very early date.

"As regards additional taxation, already the smaller ryots are heavily taxed and I do not want that they should be burdened still more. At the time the Government fixed up the permanent settlement in zamindaris they formulated certain principles, the zamindars getting roughly about one-third and the Government taking two-thirds of the income. On the other hand the ryots are made to pay very much more to the zamindar than the rent paid at the time of the permanent settlement. I am not anxious that the permanent settlement should be revoked, but what I want to suggest is that agricultural incomes should be exempted from tax. I believe peshkash does not come under agricultural income. I would suggest that the Government may introduce a Bill imposing some sort of super-tax on the zamindars for the purpose of realizing some more revenue for provincial expenditure on the basis of the amount which they are collecting above the permanent settlement rate."

.5 * Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Mr. President, Sir, if a
1. balanced budget or a budget with a little surplus is all that a Finance Member is required to produce in a Presidency like this, our Finance Member has done that and he certainly deserves the congratulations of this House. But if we look a little deeper into the Budget and ask

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the masses whether the Finance Member has not collected more than what they the people of our Province are able to pay, we will be met with the reply that the taxes lie heavily on their shoulders and so heavily do they lie that it is impossible for them to pay those taxes without much sacrifice on their part. In this connexion I am reminded of the days of the French Revolution when the people of France were left, after the exactions of the Government, hardly 10 per cent of their income. I ask the Hon. the Finance Member whether even that 10 per cent is left to the agriculturists of this Presidency with the taxation which has been imposed upon them. Sir, I daresay that in addition to the land tax which every one of us has to pay, the landholder has to pay the indirect taxes, as for instances the salt tax, the foreign customs duties, the stamp tax, the tax on liquor and other things. If we make allowance for all these taxes, I ask the Hon. the Finance Member whether the ryots of this Presidency will be left even the 10 per cent which was considered so unbearable that it broke the back of the agriculturists on the eve of the French Revolution in France and led to the revolution. I therefore say, Sir, that if matters are allowed to continue like this we will be creating a situation when it will be no longer possible to control the people and it will result in rioting if not in revolution. It would then be very difficult for the Government to cope with the situation. The budget therefore from the people's point of view is a very unsympathetic if not a positively harmful one.

"Sir, this morning Mr. Langely found fault with this House for asking for remission and said that it would be introducing a very dangerous principle in politics if at the instance of the Legislative Council the Ministers or Executive Councillors were to grant remission. Now, the question is not whether the principle is bad or good; but the question is whether the House was wrong in asking for remission; whether the conditions prevailing now justify the collection of the full rate of assessment; or whether it justifies, according to this House, the remission of 33⅓ per cent. I daresay that the lands have been over-taxed and, in addition, the prices of produce have gone down. Over and above that, on account of the unfavourable ratio and the ruinous loan policy of the Government of India we are completely bankrupt and the ryots find it absolutely impossible to pay anything to the Government. I can say, Sir, as a landholder myself, that the landholders are not living on the produce from the land. They are, on the other hand, living on the capital. That is the state of the landholders. How long can a landholder live on his capital? Surely one day or other, if this state of affairs continues, it will disappear altogether. And the day does not seem to be far off when instead of a stout peasantry who will be the bulwark of the Government you will have a bankrupt agriculturist class. I daresay that the absence of prosperous middle-class agriculturists will cut at the root of any stable Government. By your present policy you are driving them to destitution and ruin. Investing money on lands has become a losing transaction and capital is flowing off the land. The incidence of taxation in this Presidency is uneven and unjust. You

invest a lakh of rupees on land, you get Rs. 3,000 income out of which you have to pay Rs. 2,000 or so to Government while you invest the same sum in a bank you get Rs. 3,500 out of which you pay only Rs. 60 or so as income-tax. There is no comparison between the two. The Hon. Finance Member admits that the whole question has to be investigated, but has done *nothing to meet the said longstanding grievance of the* public. On the other hand the same old method of taxing and over-taxing the ryot has been going on and even now resettlements are going on heedless of the inequalities and injustice in the existing system of taxation.

"Then, Sir, as I pointed out last time in my Budget speech, there is a class of zamindars who are gaining an unearned increment on account of their comparative immunity from land-tax and its periodical revisions. Their tax was fixed about the year 1802 and it has not been increased since. They are therefore making an unearned income. Could not this unearned income be taxed? It is wrong to suppose that *their lands have been permanently settled and that they cannot be taxed* now. Last time I quoted a Privy Council decision which said that permanent settlement is not permanent in the sense that it is permanent for all time but that it is permanent in the sense that it is permanent so long as it lasts. That is the interpretation of the Privy Council. We have here a very useful source of income. If the Government want more money they can tap this source and that with justice. They are getting an unearned increment. They are not contributing anything to the society. They are mere tax-gatherers.

"It has been usual in the general discussion to make representations regarding various grievances, local and general. I should like to take this opportunity therefore for laying before the House and before the Hon. the Minister for Education even though he is absent, some of the grievances which the public feel owing to the absence of a settled policy with regard to the aided educational institutions in this Presidency. The Government make vast grants for buildings and furniture to aided schools. These buildings and these furniture become the private property of the owners of the schools. They therefore are actually trading with Government money. They do not care for education. They exist solely for trading with Government money put in their hands for building grants and furniture grants. Even the teaching grants annually paid are not safe in their hands. When these grants are spent on the buildings and the furniture owned by the proprietors of these schools, they become liable to attachment and sale by their creditors. That state of affairs is certainly not conducive to the healthy growth of *education in this Presidency.*

"As I was saying, the proprietors of these private schools receiving teaching grants from the Government do not pay the whole amount to the teachers whom they employ in their schools. But if the inspecting authority visits their schools, they put up before him false acquittance rolls showing that they are paying large salaries to their teachers when in fact they are paying very low salaries. With all this, the

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teachers have no security of employment. They are liable to be punished with even dismissal at the sweet will of these school proprietors. It will be agreed that this state of affairs should be radically changed if education is to be developed in a satisfactory manner.

"Next, Sir, I would like to mention the forest grievances of the people of my district, South Kanara. I am glad that the Hon. the Law Member is present here. We have been agitating for the last three years, on the floor of this House and outside for the redressal of the forest grievances of the people of South Kanara. Even recently we found the Settlement Officer stating in his scheme report that the ryots of South Kanara depend for their manure and for their firewood and other things on the reserved forests. It has been an immemorial custom in the district to gather leaf manure and firewood from the reserved forests and to allow the cattle of the ryots to graze therein. The ryots of South Kanara are not fortunate enough to possess the alluvial soil which the ryots in the other parts of the Presidency possess. They depend for their cultivation therefore solely on green manure from the forests. This right of the ryots of South Kanara was sought to be taken away and they protested against it. The Hon. the Law Member at last seems to have passed final orders saying that from the seventeen forests stated in the order the ryots should not remove green manure and other things, but that from the rest of the forests the removal of these things would not be interfered with, without the sanction of Government. Sir, my submission in this connexion is that these seventeen forests are the bigger ones in the district and that if the rights of the ryots in these forests are denied, some 50 or 60 villages would not get the manure leaves necessary for cultivation. An enquiry took place recently in connexion with this question; but it was unfortunately a one-sided affair. It was conducted in a very haphazard manner and there was hardly time to go into the details. From what I heard of this enquiry I may say, Sir, that simply because the officer found leaf manure stocked in a particular place even a year after the reserved forests were closed to the ryots, he wrongly concluded that they were getting plenty from other sources. The fact, however, is that the stock which he found was the balance of the last year's collection they obtained before the forests were closed to them. Further, I can say from my personal experience that the ryots are really suffering for want of these manure leaves, etc. The position therefore reduces itself to this: the Government while it seeks to collect as much as it can from the public, takes away even the few facilities which the cultivators now have. I cannot sufficiently express the distress which this particular order has caused to the ryots. As my time is up, I resume my seat."

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN:—"I associate myself with the hon. 3-3
Members who spoke of the admirable way in which the Budget was p.m.
prepared and presented by the Finance Member.

"Sir, year in and year out hon. Members who represent the depressed classes who were anxious to speak were not able to do so as the particular Demand, Miscellaneous departments in which the Labour

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Department is included, was not reached. I shall not refer to the other matters in the short time at my disposal but shall confine myself to the Labour department only. Sir, with regard to this department, I may say that after one and a half century of British Rule it was only some 14 years ago the Government thought that the creation of such a department was necessary for the betterment of the depressed classes. So a senior Civilian was placed in charge of that department at that time and he was called the Protector of the Depressed Classes. He was given a staff of Deputy Collectors to go through the districts to establish schools, start co-operative societies and generally to find ways and means for improving the economic condition of the depressed classes, by assignment of lands for house-sites, by improving water-supply and by finding other amenities. Shortly after the department was started, the Protector of the Depressed Classes was saddled with other works such as industrial labour and factories, criminal tribes and so on. His designation was afterwards changed to that of Labour Commissioner, and the places of Deputy Collectors were given to senior Tahsildars, and called District Labour Officers. Now, the Tahsildars of inferior grade are appointed as District Labour Officers and as they are afraid of the land-owning classes that they will be fabricating false complaints and thus mar their prospects. They are unable to discharge their duty freely and fearlessly.

"With regard to the lists of darkhast lands for assignment to the depressed classes they are incorrect. The lands applied for are found to be patta lands not cultivated by the owners. The depressed class men find it difficult to trace the lands not owned by anybody. So, I suggest, applications for the assignment of these lands ought to be made through the District Labour Officer, who will be able to trace the land available for the depressed classes and get it assigned.

"Then coming to education, 45 years ago the Government issued order to open schools for these classes. As the castemen would not come forward to teach, the Government Order became a dead letter—circumstances changed after these long years. One of the objects of establishing the Labour department was to open separate schools for these classes. Owing to want of proper supervision the schools of the department were neglected and some hundreds of them had to be closed. So, later on the Government passed orders that these depressed class pupils should be admitted in local board schools. Although the Government have passed such an order, in actual practice, the depressed class pupils are not able to get admission without difficulty. Owing to the threat of the caste-Hindus that they will dismiss their parents from their services if they send their children to schools, the depressed class children have to remain home without attending schools. So what I submit is that education should be imparted to the depressed class children not through any other agency except through the Government agency directly.

"Now with regard to the specious plea of missionaries that they are in the field to educate the depressed class children. They are

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there to proselytize to their religion. If Government give the depressed classes proper facilities for their education, they would not depend upon the help of missionary bodies. Moreover a number of depressed class pupils who go to mission schools are converted to the Christian religion and owing to the process of conversion the numerical strength of the depressed classes is day by day dwindling, they lose their faith in their own religion and great harm is done to the community as a whole. Sir, with all their poverty-stricken condition the depressed classes prefer to send their children to the Government schools. The Government that observe religious neutrality should not encourage the proselytizing bodies like Christian missionaries. The depressed classes are all on the whole very poor people. There are not even a few families whose income is over Rs. 100. So the best way to educate these classes would be to give them education free. In the city of Madras there is a hostel for about 45 boys belonging to the depressed classes where preference is given to boys from the districts. The hostel should be for about 200 boys to admit boys in the city as well.

"Then with regard to co-operative societies the administration of these societies has been transferred to the Co-operative department. My submission is that it should be in the hands of the Protector of the Depressed Classes, now the Commissioner of Labour. The reason why this work was transferred was that the Commissioner had too much work to attend to. Most of the Commissioner's work has been transferred to the District Collectors. They also have too many irons in the fire. They scarcely find time for this work. All of them are not sympathetic. Some do not wish a field-labourer's son to become a legislator. Some think there will be disturbance in the country by educating the children of these classes. The Commissioner should have sufficient staff in the districts for the ameliorative work of these classes. There are officers like Messrs. Tremenhire, Mullalay, Paddison and others who have done much. There are even now some who are trying their best for these unfortunate people.

"Then with regard to communal rotation in the public services, at the beginning of the department only 10 to 12 castes were termed as the depressed classes. Now that number has been increased to 86. I do not see any reason why the claims of the depressed classes should be thus minimized by the inclusion of a large number of communities some of whom are not untouchables.

"Then with regard to criminal tribes some six lakhs of rupees were being spent annually. But now it has been increased, I think. But the allotment for the depressed classes has not been increased. Of course we do not grumble other people getting more money. Sir, it may be said that the landowner pays taxes and he has got every preferential claim. But I ask who produces the income on his land. Is it not the labourers, the depressed classes, who receive starving wages and put up with several forms of oppression.

"When the Royal Commission on Agriculture came to this Province they did not enquire into the wages of the agricultural labourers and

their condition; because, the Government did not ask the Commission to do so. I understand the Government have taken the wages census of these labourers at different periods. I think Mr. Gray was entrusted to do this work. It is high time for the Government to bring in an Agricultural Labour Act like the Industrial Labour Act.

" Then with regard to excise revenue, a very large portion of that revenue comes from the depressed classes who are addicted to drink and in spite of this, the Government are not allotting even one-eighth of the revenue they contribute for their amelioration. It may not be earmarked, but liberal allotment can be made. Of course caste people will then come forward to say that they also drink.

" I think His Excellency the Governor promises to be a popular Governor. I hope in his regime the Agricultural Labourers' Wages Act will be brought into this Province for the betterment of the untouchables.

" There has been a constant talk among the untouchables about the oppression by the caste-Hindus and negligence on the part of the Government that unless they revolt they will not get justice. Robbers and rebels are cared for by the Government but not the loyal, law abiding agricultural labourers, the tillers of the soil. Sooner the Government pay attention to these people the better."

45 * Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar :—" Mr. President,
n. Sir, I also join in the chorus of congratulations that have been offered to the Hon. the Finance Member. Hon. Members of this House who are more experienced have given out various reasons as to why he deserves these congratulations. I shall confine myself to only one point, as it has been suggested by another hon. Member. As the hon. Member, Mr. Langley, pointed out, there is something certainly inherently wrong with the policy that is adopted by the Government in connexion with taxation, especially land revenue taxation. I hope that steps will be taken in order to see that the land revenue policy is so shaped that there will be no need for remission as has been given especially to our districts which are awfully famine-stricken. At least once in three years people in this famine-stricken zone have been crying for remissions, crying for loans and crying for doles, because crops have failed; we do not get enough of rain; we are not able to make both ends meet; we are in a chronic state of poverty and it has not improved. As I have more than once told hon. Members of this House, we have been in a very unfortunate position; we have been crying hoarse for nearly 150 years that the central districts have been frequently attacked by famines; there has been enormous waste of expenditure on those famines and no return for the money that has been spent. Gravel is collected; the stones are collected. They are left on the spot to be utilized later on; they are stolen or used by contractors; this is the state of policy that has been continuing for over years and years; in order to remedy this difficulty we have been crying hoarse, we have been pointing out in this House as well as outside, that, if there are any districts, if there is one zone rather than the other,

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which are highly in need of remunerative enterprises, they are the Ceded districts and the Tungabhadra Project is the only project which would give relief to the famine-stricken zone. What is the result? Has there been any improvement in the matter? I have been crying hoarse in the matter and I have been saying that it has been the peculiar wisdom or unwisdom of the Madras Government to follow the policy 'to whom that hath, more shall be given; from him that hath not, even the little he hath shall be taken away.' That has been unfortunately the policy that has been followed by the Madras Government. The Tanjore district which is sufficiently irrigated, nay over-irrigated, has been given another project, the Mettur project. The hon. and gallant knight from Berhampur and some other hon. Members have been congratulating Major Howard on starting one of the most remunerative schemes which is going to achieve most useful results; if probably the Electricity Board is constituted, he will be the first person to sit on the Board. Here in this place, openly and publicly I also acknowledge that Major Howard certainly deserves all these compliments; I only wish to add that he should be sent at once to Bellary to start the Tungabhadra project immediately. The Hon. the Home Member seems to ask 'Where is the money to come from?' Money will certainly come, if he will only try. With the great impetus he can give, I am sure that he will certainly be able to carry through this Tungabhadra scheme.

"There is also one other scheme which I think the Hon. the Law Member may remember in this connexion. I have referred to this matter once before; according to the scheme that has been prepared for the Tungabhadra project, it will not only irrigate the whole of the Ceded districts but also portions of the Nellore district as well. Apart from that, what is more important is, it will generate electricity which will electrify all the central districts and also other districts which it is not possible for the Pykara scheme or the Mettur scheme to electrify. That is the most remunerative scheme to which the Government should pay some attention; it will be in the interest of the rate-payer, in the interests of the agriculturists, to see that such a scheme is put forward. That will certainly be a very sound financial proposition. Unfortunately there is not the least indication as to whether the Tungabhadra scheme is going to be taken up; there is nothing mentioned about it; there is no indication whatsoever as to whether any provision is made in order to start the Tungabhadra scheme; there is nothing to indicate whether there is provision for any establishment that will be required for the further investigation of this scheme. I hope, I trust and I pray that, if not the present Finance Member, at least his successor will pay some attention to the cries of the central zone, the famine-stricken zone; it is a very unfortunate zone where people are dying in hundreds; probably it may be thought to be an exaggeration; but still it is a fact; if they are not dying in hundreds on account of famine, they are dying on account of the consequential epidemics that follow famine. I hope the Hon. the Member in charge will bear in mind these remarks and see that this Tungabhadra project is pushed forward. It will certainly be in the interests of the

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rate-payer; even now it may not be too late for the Hon. the present Finance Member to make some sort of provision in order to see whether some initial expenditure may not be incurred in connexion with the investigation of this scheme during the current year. I understand that this question is pending now before the Central Government for arbitration; I hope it will be settled; I request the Madras Government to see that this matter is settled as early as possible. As I have already told hon. Members, it has been complete waste of money of the ryots; we have been wasting tons of money once in three years in relieving distress, in providing labour to labourers after all without any return whatsoever. A sum of Rs. 40 lakhs is provided for in the Budget every year in connexion with famine expenditure in the Ceded districts. I think that a sum of at least 20 lakhs of rupees is spent in connexion with giving relief to these various districts. If only all the money that has been spent during the last so many years had been utilized in connexion with the Tungabhadra scheme, the Government would certainly have earned the gratitude of poor ryots and the ryots themselves would have been saved severe pangs of suffering and distress; what is more humiliating is, in season and out of season, representatives of people in the Ceded districts have to stand up before this House and to ask for doles, ask for remission and be told by the Government that we are simply making famines and that, as a matter of fact, there is no famine at all; we are met with this reply many times: after a little while we were able to convince the Government that there are famine conditions prevailing, requiring relief.

"So far as the present year is concerned, there is famine prevailing to an abnormal extent; it is confined not to one district, but it is spread over several districts. I must take this opportunity of mentioning this fact that the Government have been very generous this year; they have been very kind; they have come in proper season in order to help the ryot. I may also tell hon. Members that this is probably the first time in the history, in the annals of famine administration, that remissions are granted. Usually they used to suspend the kist and keep the Damocles' Sword hanging; this year it is not so; we are thankful to the Government; I do not know who took this initiative; if it is the initiative of the present Revenue Member, we are certainly very grateful to him. He has given remissions this year and not ordered suspension of the payment of kist. We are indeed very much thankful that he has given remission. I have one suggestion to make in this connexion; I thank him for the full remissions granted in those cases where there have been no crops at all; there are cases where remission have been given to the extent of 50 per cent or 75 per cent of the kist. The ryots will not be able to pay the remaining portion of the kist in full on account of the distress that is prevailing now; I would request the Hon. Member in charge to call for reports and to show special concessions by way of suspending the kist till at least rains set in and till the ryot is able to have recourse to get the necessary funds in order to pay the Government."

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* RESETTLEMENT IN SALEM AND TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICTS—*cont.*

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. President, I move— 4 p.m.

'*that the business of the House be adjourned to consider a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the hardship caused to the people of Salem by the passing of G.O. No. 258, dated 1st February 1935, of the Revenue department, with regard to the introduction of resettlement in certain parts of Salem and Trichinopoly districts.*'

" Sir, it is my imperative duty to bring to the notice of this House as a last resort the request of the people of the Salem district and to communicate the request through this House to the Government, that the Salem district should be treated in a sympathetic manner. Sir, resettlement operations were started in Salem in the year 1930, I think, and they have been going on for so long a time. All these years the people were not able to understand the hardship that would be caused by the results of the operations being put into effect; it was only when the resettlement proposals were published in the form of a scheme report, they were able to understand how it affects them. Having understood the resultant difficulties, they made representations to Government, plainly stating the difficulties, in the hope that the Government would make enquiries and pass final orders. The fact that the Government Order was being delayed for some time gave us some hope that the Government would not pass final orders until they had made detailed investigations. The time prescribed for putting in claims and objections expired by the 21st of October; and orders were not finally passed till the end of January. While we were still thinking that the matter was under consideration, all of a sudden this order was issued and we were in a fix as to what we should do. It has been accepted on all sides that already the ryots are suffering very much and are unable to pay the existing taxes. If they are to be taxed further, as under this order, I cannot understand how they will be in a position to pay the higher rates. The Government themselves have accepted the fact that the ryots are finding it difficult to pay even the existing taxes. I ask the Government whether they are justified in increasing the rates at this juncture.

" Sir, this year is particularly a bad one for Salem and the ryots are groaning under great poverty; they are unable to make both ends meet and pay the taxes too. In the Government Order issued, the Government have seriously taken up the points mentioned by the Settlement Officer absolutely flouting the prayers of the ryots. They seem to think that the ryots are in an affluent position and can well afford to pay these higher rates. This is evident from the following passage in the Government Order:—

'One of the main contentions put forward is that the economic condition of the tract has not materially improved since the last resettlement, and in support of this contention it is urged that the ryots have not been able to pay even the existing assessment, that the cost of cultivation has increased, that the sale, lease, and mortgage values of land in recent years have decreased, and that the ryots are heavily indebted and have to borrow money for the payment of kist . . .'

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" These are the contentions put in by the ryots; but the Government meet them by saying:—

'The Government observe from the statistics furnished by the Special Assistant Settlement Officer in paragraphs 13–29 of the Scheme Report that the assessment has been paid without difficulty, and that there has been a substantial increase in the sale and lease values of the land. . .'

" They say further:—

'It is clear from the Special Assistant Settlement Officer's report that indebtedness among the ryots is not high and that their general economic condition is such that a large proportion of them have been in a position to lend money to others. Of the amounts borrowed only a very small percentage was for the payment of assessment.

'The Government are satisfied from an examination of the several factors which indicate the economic development of the area under consideration in its relation to land revenue that the existing rates of assessment have not impeded the economic development of the area and that there has been a very obvious and substantial increase in the prosperity of the ryots.'

" We have repeatedly stated what the exact position is; but the Government, in coming to a conclusion, have thought it fit to rely on the report of the Settlement Officer. No attempt has been made by the Government to find out whether the facts mentioned by the ryots were true or not. The Settlement Officer in his own way has dealt with the various points which finally led to a recommendation for higher rates. I gave a fitting reply to each and every point raised by him in the representations which I have submitted to the scheme report and I am sure the Hon. Member in charge would have gone through them at leisure. I am sorry to see that he has not been convinced by my arguments. Perhaps he wants figures in support of them; but I may point out that when a gazetted officer with a lot of staff under him was able to gather these materials in the course of three or four years, I beg to submit that it is too much to expect laymen like me who come forward to do public work and the ignorant ryots to get the figures with a view to refute the arguments advanced by the Settlement Officer. If only the Government had made enquiries through a non-official committee—like for instance, the Economic Enquiry Committee appointed by them some time ago—they could have known the real position.

" I shall now deal with a few of the points raised by the Settlement Officer. He says that sale and lease values have considerably increased, and in support thereof, he seems to have taken into consideration some selected documents in this behalf executed in about 98 villages in the area. He has not however stated the names of the villages or the nature and other details of the documents that had been taken for examination. If we had known these details, it would have been a help to me or to anybody else interested in the matter, to expose the hollowness in them.

" With regard to remission, it is stated that no appreciable remission has been allowed in that area and this has been taken as an argument for increasing the assessment. It has been the practice of the Government not to allow remissions in the ordinary way; and it has also been the unfortunate lot of the people of my district not to know the actual rules

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in this regard, so as to enable them to apply to Government for remission even in cases of necessity. The ignorance of the ryots combined with the obstinacy of the Government in the matter of not granting remissions has contributed to the fact that there has been no appreciable remission. Even in regard to wet lands fed by the Cauvery in the Salem district, whenever there was loss of crops by the frequent failure of supply of water in the channels at critical times the Government did not care to enquire and grant remissions, when such facts were brought to their notice by me by means of interpellations. Such being the case, it is not proper to advance the argument that because there has been no appreciable remission, therefore there is justification for enhancement of the rates.

"Then again, Sir, with regard to commutation of prices, I may say that the Government have failed to consider the fact that resettlement operations were begun in Salem in an exceptionally bad period. Both during the Great War and after it, prices of foodstuffs increased enormously; and the inclusion of that period for the purpose of fixing the average has helped the Government to arrive at a high amount. I submit, Sir, the Government should have totally ignored that period. But for this fact of war and post-war high prices, I am sure, the Government could not have sufficient justification for raising the rates especially in the present economic depression, when people are struggling under great poverty.

"Another argument advanced is that the extent of unoccupied lands has decreased as compared to the extent at the time of the last resettlement. On that point, I may say that the people of the district are mostly agriculturists, and as the population has been steadily increasing, they could not but take to unoccupied lands for their livelihood, whether such a course was paying or not. Besides, in many cases, the lands might have been got assigned to make the holding contiguous. Therefore this cannot be taken as a ground for saying that the people are in a prosperous condition.

"As regards the wealth and indebtedness of the ryots, it is said that the ryots are in affluent circumstances and are not borrowing money for paying taxes. I submit, Sir, that this is not correct, since the Settlement Officer has taken into account only the figures in respect of certain co-operative societies and has not taken into consideration the debts that are incurred by the ryots in numerous ways and the high rates of interest they are paying. Moreover, Sir, it is the practice among the ryot population, that whenever they have to borrow money, even for the purpose of paying taxes, to state some other reason such as family expenses in the pro-notes or other documents, which they execute for taking loan, instead of the true reason that the amount is required only for the payment of taxes.

"Sir, another point which has been adduced for justifying this 4-1
enhancement is that there was no default in payment of these taxes. p.m.
My reply to the Hon. the Revenue Member to this is that the practice

of the people is such that they generally make it a point to pay the amount of the tax making it the first charge on their budget. Even if they have to starve, they make it a point that the tax is paid first and even if they are slack in this respect, you have got your Revenue officials from the Collector down to the village officer and the menials to squeeze the ryots and collect the amount by some means or other. I know, Sir, that the Revenue officials, if the amounts are not collected by the village officers from the ryots, even compel these village officers to pay the amount from their pockets first and then realize it from the ryots; and the poor village officers will have to meekly submit themselves and often times they do like that. Such being the case, it cannot be an argument that because the ryots pay the tax they are affluent. They cannot but pay the tax since they are harassed much. Irrespective of the difficulty and hardship, their loyalty in paying the tax has now been taken as an argument to enhance the tax. By this I am led to believe that Government themselves are preaching a no-tax campaign, as they say 'because you pay the tax, we can raise it; and if you do not pay it generally we won't raise it.' It really comes to that. If on the other hand, such a preaching had been done by anybody else, it would have been considered an offence on his part, and since Government themselves are doing it, I fail to understand why they cannot find their way to prosecute themselves.

"Sir, in this connexion, I may say that I have made all efforts to let the Government see that the plight of the people of Salem is very bad and that they might as well put off this question of resettlement for some time. I did not even go to the length of suggesting that resettlement should not be done, but I simply requested that it may be kept in abeyance at least for one or two years. I even interviewed His Excellency on this matter—both His Excellency Sir George Stanley and His Excellency Lord Erskine—and have also interviewed the Hon. the Revenue Member and impressed upon them the need for sympathy being shown to our district; and I am sorry that those representations have not been viewed with sympathy.

"Now, Sir, this Government Order has been issued and the ryots are in a great dilemma as to how they will be able to pay the taxes. Already, one instalment—the January collection of kist—has been over and we are now in the month of February to pay the second instalment of kist. Already the village officers have begun to collect the enhanced rates. People from my district are rushing to me stating their difficulties and I simply promised that I would convey their difficulties to Government and plead for a sympathetic treatment. They are now in very great distress and if Government are not coming forward to help them they will be simply ruined. From what they have stated in paragraph 9 of the Government Order, the Government seem to think that they can go even a step further than what has been recommended by the Assistant Settlement Officer. With regard to first-class wet

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lands, the Settlement Officer has recommended the maximum enhancement rate of 18¾ per cent and for other classes of wet lands he has recommended only 12½ per cent. But the Government even go much farther than that. They say ' they are of opinion that the proposed enhancement is moderate and that on the facts reported, the maximum increase of 18¾ per cent would have been justified also for the lands mentioned in clause (*b*) above,' i.e., *wet lands of other than first-class* sources. From this it will be seen that Government show no sympathy at all to the ryots. Even recently, when we discussed the resolution with regard to remission, it was brought to the notice of the Government by Members from almost all sides of the House, what the present situation of the ryots was and how Government should go to their rescue; but Government have merely turned down the resolution of this House without showing any consideration whatsoever. It might have been well if they had at least, though not exactly what was asked for in the resolution, shown some generous consideration. But they have not shown any sympathy.

" The fact that Government themselves of their own accord have come forward to grant at least suspension of land revenue to start with—I hope ultimately it will be a total remission as was done last year—is a sign that Government have understood the real plight of the ryots. And to burden them with additional taxation in their present state of poverty is rather merciless. We have been all along saying in this House that resettlement might be stopped for some time to come, at least till the present economic depression disappears; and this view was even expressed by a vote of this House in connexion with the adjournment motion relating to the resettlement of South Kanara but without caring for the opinion of this House, they simply carry on their resettlement operations. First of all, it began with Kistna after this Council was formed, then they went on to Malabar and South Kanara and now they have come to Salem, and very shortly they may be going to the Ceded districts as well and impose additional taxation there also. Though it has been stated by Government that they would adopt some principle and then levy taxes so as to make it their uniform policy, yet in actual practice, the net result of resettlement has been an increase of taxation once in thirty years. At the time of the resettlement of 1903–04, they increased the rates by 12½ per cent, and now again they want to increase it by 18¾ and 12½ per cent. Of all the districts, my district of Salem consists mostly of dry lands where the ryots have sunk wells at great cost in order to raise some crop since the rains in our district are not steady and seasonal. I know in some cases, the ryots have incurred huge amounts of debts even by mortgaging the whole of their property in order to sink wells, and ultimately they lost their land and the well together for not repaying the debts. This year especially rain has absolutely failed and the ryots were not able to grow any dry crop worth mentioning. It is rather cruel on the part of the Government if an enhancement of the tax is to be made in an

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exceptional period like this. Unfortunately it has fallen to our lot to have only Acting Collectors in our district in recent times and they did not make. . ."

Mr. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—" On a point of order, Mr. President, may I enquire whether there is quorum at present? "

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Yes, we have got the quorum now."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" As I said just now, Sir, when resettlement proposals were submitted to Government, we had only Acting Collectors in the district, and they simply supported the recommendations of the Assistant Settlement Officers and did not come forward to represent the real situation and the plight of the ryots. The very short endorsement of the Collector of Salem on the scheme report shows that he has not taken the trouble to deal with the real plight of the ryots. He simply says 'As regards the proposals for the revision of assessment I am in agreement with the proposals. They are reasonable and cannot be a hardship to the ryots. Nor do I think that the present economic depression is a factor which ought to influence the date of introduction of the resettlement.' Thus he simply supports the proposals on the basis of the arguments raised by the Assistant Settlement Officer and does not himself deal with the real plight of the ryots. On the other hand, Sir, if you look at the endorsement of the Collector of Trichinopoly, though he finally states in a half-hearted way that he is agreeable to the proposal, he notes down the points to show that the settlement is not justifiable at the present juncture. I think the Collector of Salem could have done justice if he had also dealt with the points which have been raised by the Collector of Trichinopoly. If he had done that, Sir, Government also could have been influenced.

" Finally, Sir, I may state that it is but fair that Government should consider the question over again and think whether they would be justified in squeezing from the ryots such high taxes at this exceptional period. As the Government have already passed their orders, the collection of the enhanced rate has already begun. May I ask the Government whether it would not be fair on their part to stop it and see that it is introduced at some future time? I would only request the Government to postpone it at least till the new Reforms come into force when the settlement policy could be dealt with by the Reformed Government and when we shall be allowed to take our chance. Government did not accede to our request and they have begun to levy the rates. Even though they have levied the new rates, I do not think it is too late for them to reconsider the question and see whether it could not be postponed for some more time, by adjusting the amounts already collected for future instalments.

" Though, Sir, this adjournment motion, as it is worded, relates to my district, I think it is a general question of principle which ought to influence all the Members of the Council, at least the Members representing the various districts.

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"This is not a problem which specially concerns the district of Salem. It is possible that within a short time the turn may come for the Ceded districts to be resettled. With regard to these districts, I need not mention, as it goes without saying, that they have been afflicted with famine and the Government have also taken some steps to meet the situation. There also it is possible that they will apply the general principle and introduce resettlement. I shall ask the Government whether it is justifiable on the part of the Government to go on like this. If they are going to make an exception in the case of those districts, I request them to give the same treatment to the dry district of Salem, which is situated in a similar position in point of seasonal rainfall. I think the Hon. the Revenue Member will show some sympathy to Salem district and treat it as a special case. During the year 1931 when retrenchment was in full swing, they suspended the resettlement operations for a year. Why then, Sir, should not the same principle be applied to the case of Salem as this is a period of exceptional difficulty? I think, Sir, if the Government have a will to help and sympathize, they can do it. I appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to treat the district of Salem in a fair way. Let him not say that because he has turned down the proposal with regard to Kistna, he is bound to observe uniformity. But the case of Salem is different in that its rainfall has not been sufficient and is a dry district and especially the dry crops have failed this year.

4-P.M.

"The Government have all along been saying that they want money. I think they can as well abolish the Settlement Department for some time They will then be able to save some money. I do not want the department to be wiped off once for all. All I want is that the department may be closed for a year or two so that the Government may have some saving and also the ryots may be left at ease. I request hon. Members on all sides of the House to view this question sympathetically and also from the point of view of their districts which will, in course of time, have to face a similar situation which Salem is experiencing owing to resettlement."

*Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi:—"Mr. President, Sir, if in seconding this motion, I say anything, it is from the point of view of that hapless specimen of humanity called the ryot. I say therefore there need be no fear that I shall be inflicting on an already attenuated House a long and learned speech nor would I be quoting any facts and figures or citing opinions and authorities upon the subject of settlement and survey. My district of Kistna had the privilege of having had resettlement some two years ago and we know how we enjoy the effects thereof, namely of being mulcted in $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent in excess in these days of acute economic depression. Sir, it is admitted on all hands, at least it is admitted among the ryot population of which Hon. the Law Member is one, that this resettlement is so fine and good, that its effect is so beneficial that it is considered as something like the visitation of a beneficent epidemic like cholera or plague

(laughter). Whatever the economic condition may be in a particular district, whatever the fall in prices, however phenominally steep that fall may be, the net result of resettlement is one which everybody knows, namely, enhancement of land revenue—invariably as my Hon. Friend (Mr. Bhatt) wants me to put. I challenge the Hon. the Revenue Member to say to the contrary. In these days of depression it is admitted even by the Hon. the Finance Member that the ryot considers every copper coin as a gold sovereign. Coins have become very rare in villagers, and my friends hailing from rural parts will bear testimony to what I say. An enhancement of $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent is so very great that it cannot but press very heavily upon the ryots; the ryot is very hard pressed—pressed on one side by old creditors and pressed on the other side for want of funds to pay kist. In these days, to think of resettlement which means nothing other than enhancement of taxes, is to say the least cruel. It is something like a story in Telugu. A thief entered a house while in mourning. The owner of the house caught him and asked him how he could enter a house under such circumstances. He simply replied 'what do you know of my necessity.' So it is simply the necessity of the Government that is considered by the Government and not the plight of the ryot.

"This resettlement is a very ancient thing. It is not only antiquated but it can even be said to be antedeluvian as will be admitted by the Hon. the Revenue Member himself. It might even have taken its origin from Abdul Fazal, Minister of Akbar, or even from the remote Hindu kings. What I wonder is why, when the world is progressing by leaps and bounds in all directions, all these great intellectual stars in the Civil Service should not find out some enlightened method of taxation. I think there is advantage in this beautiful system. That is why they stick on to it. They take the average prices for thirty years and then calculate what you call commutation rates. There is so much room in this calculation for manipulation. Otherwise it passes one's comprehension as to why in this enlightened century this antiquated system is being retained. (Mr. U. C. S. Bhatt: 'Nothing but fraud.') What I think is that the most intelligent people among the civilians with brains as sharp as needle and as nimble as the Hon. the Revenue Member, are put on to this resettlement work. They can make truth appear as falsehood, and falsehood truth, right appear as wrong, or wrong right (laughter, hear hear) and earn the cursings of the ryots. They are going on perpetuating this mockery of a system which deserves a radical change. That this system of taxation in India requires a radical change is admitted even by the Hon. the Finance Member of the Government of India. Our Presidency is such a big one that it can afford to take risk and to indulge in some kind of experiment. Such a small province as the Punjab has ventured upon a new system which will revolutionize the whole land revenue. I think all our friends are aware including the Members of Government and His Excellency. . ."

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The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" On a point of order. May I ask whether there has been any reference to the district of Salem in what the hon. Member has been saying."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" There is no point of order involved."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Order. Order. There is. I would like to suggest to the hon. Member to make his observations with reference to Government Order under discussion and not go on discussing about the general principle of resettlement about which we have had already ten minutes of discussion or so from the hon. Member."

* Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI:—" We have been allowed latitude till now in matters like this."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member will address his remarks with reference to the points involved in the Government Order."

* Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI:—" There will be nothing to say. The Government Order will be perfection itself for all outward appearance." (Laughter.)

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" If the hon. Member has nothing to say, I am not going to press him to say something."

* Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI:—" But still, Sir, I am bound to say something." (Laughter.)

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Order, Order. Let us be serious in this discussion. If the hon. Member has got any remarks to make about the Government Order he can go on." 4-45 p.m.

* Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI:—" What am I to say about the Government Order? I submit that at the beginning of this Council they began to lay their hands on my district. We entered an emphatic protest on the floor of this House. Nevertheless they carried the day. Afterwards they went on spreading their tentacles over the other parts of the Presidency like Malabar and South Kanara and have now come to Salem. Well, famine is raging on one side and resettlement is going on on the other. While Rome is burning Nero is going on fiddling. (Hear, hear and cheers.) Talking in all seriousness (laughter), Government consider for a moment that they are there for the good of the people and not that the people are there for their sake. They will not take seriously the resolutions passed on the floor of this House. Except that they go on sitting and listening, perhaps moping, and moaning (laughter), in effect they do nothing. Actually they pay no attention to these things and go on in their own jolly way nonchalantly inflicting these resettlements on one district after another, especially in these hard days. As the mover has submitted this is not the time at all for any Government, be it even bureaucratic, or irresponsible, to flout public opinion and to place additional weight upon the already overburdened ryot. Now even Kistna which has been supposed to be one of the gardens of this Presidency like Tanjore is groaning under the additional burden so heavily, is not making both ends meet and

is not able to pay the heavy demand of revenue even by selling the whole produce. That is the actual condition that obtains in the villages all over the Presidency. At present how can it be possible for the ryot to meet any enhanced taxation as the result of resettlement. I prophesy—and I am not a bad prophet in this at least—that there will be an enhancement, if not of $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, at least of $12\frac{1}{2}$ as South Kanara had. It is a foregone conclusion. If the Hon. the Revenue Member is pleased to guarantee that there will be no increase let them go on resettling *ad infinitum* and *ad nauseum*. Till the completion of the resettlement operations they will go on putting forth so many facts and figures and they will be simply confusing poor brains like mine or yours (cheers). After all, this is resettlement. Whatever there might be or might not be there will be one result, i.e., the poor and already burdened ryot will have his back broken. Then what will the ryot be fit for? In this agricultural country 95 per cent of the population are ryots. So much so the whole Government revenue directly or indirectly is based on the ryot. What I say is, as a wise shepherd you will have to keep the milch cow happy, healthy, strong and robust so that you can be going on milking. Do not be foolish to cut off the udder as you are doing now. If this process goes on for some time more the yeomanry will be ruined and along with it this Government too." (Applause.)

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Mr. President, Sir, coming from a district—I am not speaking about South Kanara; I am speaking by way of introduction—just resettled and knowing as I do the hardships of the people of South Kanara on account of the recent resettlement, I entirely agree with what all Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder has said. He said that there have been a lot of mistakes in the resettlement of Salem and they point out that if only an inquiry was instituted they would substantiate the mistakes. I may tell him that we too had our share of mistakes, mere arithmetical mistakes which we pointed out and which we are prepared to substantiate. I quite agree with him and realize the hardships the people of Salem are to be put to when they have to face this additional taxation as a result of this resettlement. The position of the Government seems to be this. It does not care a jot for the condition of the people and for the economic crisis under which they are passing. It does not care a jot for the difficulties of the people. All they want is money and irrespective of the time, they have to get the enhanced assessment. This policy of the Government is one which stands to be criticized by this adjournment motion. I am not sanguine as to the effect of this adjournment motion being carried. We have our experience of passing adjournment motions in this House and of hearing what its effect has been from the Government Member himself. We are here to do our duty and we are here to say what the Government stands for and what we stand for. The public will judge between the Government and the members of the public. I dare say, Sir, that whatever little be the effect of a resolution or adjournment motion on the Government we know that we have to pass it and we are here to support it and pass it. One cannot but understand the attitude

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of the Government in trying to introduce resettlement at this time. Everywhere in this Presidency Government have been granting remissions. Government which has granted remissions last year knows the existing condition of the people and they under these conditions could not pay. But this year why should they enhance the assessment? This year also they have granted remissions because they are aware that the prevailing conditions are the same. But they have not given any higher remission because of the introduction of resettlement. So really one cannot understand why resettlement is to be introduced now when they are actually giving remissions all over the Presidency including the district in which they have introduced resettlement. The principle of granting remissions does not agree with the principle of introducing resettlement. The argument of the Government seems to be this. The other districts have had their share and therefore you must have yours. Even in the case of remissions when this House asked for $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent they said we cannot grant the remission to that extent because the Government cannot be carried on. They think that everyone exists for the Government. The question of the ability of the ryot does not at all come in, though it is the ability of the ryot that has to be looked into when be is taxed. As I said, Sir, a little earlier in the day, if this question is not agreed to, I am sure as my hon. Friend from Kistna said that the Government is laying its axe on its own existence rather than on the existence of the ryot. Then, again, Sir, another reason why I support this adjournment motion and say that resettlement ought not to be introduced now is this. The Hon. the Finance Member had just agreed with the House that the whole system of taxation had to be investigated and the burden of taxation must be made more equitable. As a matter of fact, Sir, we find that land alone is unduly heavily taxed compared with other investments. Suppose a lakh of rupees is invested on land one gets about 3,000 over the lakh he invests. Then he has to pay 2,000 as tax and then he has the precarious one thousand if the ryot pays it. If he does not pay he has to go to the court of law and pay for stamps which he may or may not realize from the tenant. On the other hand if a man has a lakh of rupees and invests in the Imeprial Bank he gets the Rs. 3,000 and has to pay only Rs. 60 by way of income-tax. Where is the justification to tax land so heavily while the banker is not taxed so heavily? It is absolutely inequitable. The whole taxation system of this Presidency is unjust. The burdens are very disproportionately placed. On the other hand in an agricultural country Government would have fostered agriculture and would have made agriculture more paying to the landlord. On the other hand we find that the Government itself is laying its axe upon the prosperity of the landlord and is laying a premium against cultivation and investment on land and thus ruining the prosperity of the country. With these words I support the adjournment motion."

* **The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter**:—" Mr. President, Sir, unfortunately it is my lot to oppose a motion with which from the faces round me,

I think, a large number of members of this House are in agreement. But, Sir, I must oppose it and I think I can oppose it on very good grounds. First of all, let me take the points raised by the hon. Mover of this motion Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. He began by saying that from the delay of the Government in passing orders he thought that they might in the end be more sympathetic. I can assure him, Sir, that the delay in passing orders was due entirely to the desire of the Government to examine the representations which have been made, carefully. They did not pass their orders until such an examination had been made. Then he referred to the figures given by the Settlement Officer. It has been suggested to me before by those who objected that the figures presented were probably not correct. He himself admitted that the figures of the Settlement Officer took some four years to collect. Now those figures which he and his friends presented to Government took only a few months to collect and I leave it to the House to judge which set of figures they as reasonable people would have accepted."

.m. "Then, he went on to say that if we exempted from the settlement figures the prices of War years, the results would have been very different. Now, Sir, at the risk perhaps of tedium, you will allow me to quote what the results would have been if we had excluded the years 1919 to 1925. The present commutation rate is, when compared to the rate of 1923–24, less by 106 per cent in respect of paddy and 108·2 per cent in respect of ragi grain, and then, if we exclude those years of high prices 1919 to 1925—even in the last two faslis there was a very considerable fall in prices, with all that—the commutation rate is still higher than the resettlement rate by 78 and 86 per cent respectively. I am giving these figures to show that the rates of commutation in this resettlement have not been fixed unduly high. Perhaps they might have been fixed even higher.

"The next point that was raised was that it will be better if Government kept this order in abeyance for some time. I can see a certain force in that. But the net result of imposing the resettlement is this. The increase on first-class lands, i.e., those lands under the Cauvery channels and under the Mambakam tank, is only $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. The net increase on wet lands other than those of class No. 1 is something like ·03 per cent, and on dry lands it comes to a little over 3 per cent. That is the net increase this year that the ryot has to pay.

"Now, Sir, I expected that a motion of this kind would be moved in this Council, and I wrote to the Collector of Salem to let me know what his opinion was as to the effect of this resettlement order in that district. He has said that the effect is not felt by the ryot, and that he would not feel the slight increase in his assessment this year. It was again alleged that the Collector took no trouble to see the Assistant Settlement Officer's report, but that he merely endorsed it. I can assure the House that the Collector of Salem took a vast deal of trouble, and I know it personally. He reported to the Government that he agreed with the Assistant Settlement Officer's remarks. This hon. House may

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be pretty well certain that he was very much concerned with this settlement report.

"Then, Sir, there is the other question, which I think is the most important one raised, about introducing a resettlement at this time. That point does contain considerable force. But, if we are going to make an exception in the case of Salem, we do inflict a very considerable injustice on the other districts in this Presidency which have been resettled before the present fall in prices, namely, the districts of South Kanara and Malabar. If Salem had been in the unfortunate position of having to be resettled five years ago, it would have had to pay a very considerable enhancement, to which perhaps no exception would have been taken. It is an accident that she happened to come in at the tail end of the depression, and that is to my mind no reason why any differentiation should be made in regard to Salem as compared with the other districts of the Presidency. That, I think, is the proper answer to that. It may not be altogether satisfactory to some hon. Members, but I do not think that in justice and fairness to the rest of the Presidency we should not make an exception in favour of one or two districts which happened to be resettled during these particularly bad years.

"Mr. Kolanda Reddi made a statement that every resettlement resulted in enhancement of assessment. It is dangerous to make snch statements. I can assure him that in the last resettlement in Cuddapah, it resulted in reduction. Well, Sir, I do not propose to take very much longer. Generally in support of the resettlement in Salem and the reasons which have been mentioned in the Government Order some hon. Members have read them—I may mention that during the last thirty years, i.e., during the period from the last settlement to this resettlement, there has been an increase in the mileage of railways in the districts by 82 per cent; there is an increase in the mileage of roads by 27 per cent; there are now 186 weekly markets against 80 when the settlement was introduced. These facts, I think, clearly show that the district of Salem has progressed in prosperity. Further than that, there is a most striking difference between the lease and sale values of land as they were thirty years ago and as they were when the Assistant Settlement Officer reported. The increase in the sale value of wet lands ranged up to 257 per cent. I may tell you that all these percentages and figures are taken from actual sale deeds in respect of lands. In respect of dry lands, the values have increased from 14 to 343 per cent; the lease value of wet lands has increased from about 63 to 481 per cent and dry lands from 75 to 1,000 per cent. These figures I think show that anyhow during the last thirty years the burden of assessment on land was not excessive.

"Again, some reference has been made to the indebtedness of the ryot. If you will read the Assistant Settlement Officer's report, you will see that very little money was borrowed for paying assessment. For instance, taking the amount of money borrowed from the co-operative societies, in 1932–33, i.e., two years ago, the co-operative

societies lent Rs. 5 lakhs to the ryots of which only 1·4 per cent was used to pay the assessment; 18·37 per cent was borrowed for the purpose of buying cattle and the rest for improving land. The borrowing certainly was not in order to pay the assessment of Government. In the case of other borrowings, we find that the total amount of debt was about Rs. 5½ lakhs; of this amount 1·12 per cent was borrowed for payment of assessment; 43·52 per cent borrowed for the purchase of land. Sixty-one and one-fourth per cent was lent by ryots and not by regular money-lenders. These figures show very clearly that the ryot population in Salem is not in the straitened circumstances as some Members have represented.

"Sir, I do not propose to take longer on this, and I hope I have convinced at any rate those reasonable Members of this hon. House that Government too have a case for what they have done and that Government have not imposed this resettlement on Salem without full facts and figures before them. I trust also that all reasonable Members of this hon. House will think with the Government that their action was justified."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"Mr. President, whatever may be the opinion of the Hon. the Revenue Member about the reasonableness or otherwise of myself and those other Members who are in sympathy with this resolution, I will have still to say that the lot of the ryots is bad and that the Government are bound to look to their welfare. The hon. Member has said that the Settlement Officer took a very long time to get the figures, and that the Government also took some time to consider all the representations made by the people with regard to certain figures furnished by them. Here, Sir, I must say that the Settlement Officer has been collecting figures ever since 1929 or 1930, and those figures should have become almost antiquated. Moreover, high prices were ruling till the year 1929 and 1930, and consequently the land values have been high. Now, they have to struggle on in a woeful depression which has been in existence for over four years, and the ryots are in such a bad state that they are not able to bear any more burden. The hon. Member has contended that this year they are making a slight enhancement. But at the same time he failed to make the House understand that they are proposing an incremental scale, that is to say, in case of some lands they increase the assessment by six pies in the rupee this year, by one anna next year, by one and a half annas in the third year and two annas in the fourth year; in the case of first-class wet lands the increase is by one anna this year, two annas next year and three annas in the third year. When you take the rise in the third year into consideration, the enhancement will be considerable, and the ryots will be put to much hardship in the matter of paying the assessment. Even now, the Government have realised that they should not enforce the enhanced assessment in full this year.

3 n. "Even now the Government realise that they have got reason to suspend a portion of assessment. When that is so, I cannot under-

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stand how they can think of increasing the assessment. The hon. Member also said that the Collectors have written to him that the amounts would be collected. I will tell him this: even by increasing it by four annas or six annas the Government will be able to collect it if they are bent upon doing so. They have got a lot of assistants and it will not be an impossible job for them. So the fastness with which they will be able to collect the amount easily cannot be taken as an argument for increasing the tax. The Hon. Member also said that the area has much improved with regard to markets and other facilities. I may tell him in this connexion that Government are taxing additionally for the improvement of these roads and other amenities by means of collecting fees in markets and collecting cesses separately. For the improvements they are making, they are taxing in other directions, and there are taxes under various denominations. For land-tax alone, they may think that their enhancement is not much. But I may inform them that enhancement of tax is being levied in all directions. For salt, we have to pay, for every amenity we have to pay taxes in the shape of customs duties separately, and all these will have to be paid from their income from lands. If all the taxes one has to pay are put together, I think it will be about more than 80 or 90 per cent of amount which he is able to realize from his land and he will hardly have any amount left even for his livelihood. So I appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member that the levy of enhanced tax at a period like this when the district is suffering much is not at all justifiable, and I request this House to accept this motion and to impress upon the Government that the people are in dire need of help and they should be helped by cancelling the Government Order in question and keeping the resettlement proposal in abeyance."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the business of the House be adjourned."

The motion was declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

1 Mr. T. Narasa Reddi.
2 ,, I. C. Iswaran Pillai.
3 ,, K. M. Duraiswami Reddiyar.
4 Rao Sahib D. V. Narasimhaswami.
5 Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
6 S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur.
7 Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu.
8 ,, A. Harischandrudu Nayudu.
9 Dr. P. Subharayan.
10 Mr. Yakub Hasan.
11 ,, T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
12 ,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
13 ,, Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
14 ,, T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
15 ,, V. T. Arasu.
16 ,, A. B. Shetty.
17 ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
18 ,, U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
19 ,, K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar.
20 ,, K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
21 The Pattagar of Palayakottai.
22 Mr. P. Peddi Raju.
23 ,, Ahmed Meeran.
24 ,, K. P. Raman Menon.
25 ,, M. S. Sreshta.
26 ,, P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.
27 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.
28 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
29 Mr. C. Indrayya.
30 ,, J. Kuppuswami Choudari.
31 ,, Mahbooh Ali Baig.
32 ,, H. B. Ari Gowder.
33 ,, G. R. Premayya.
34 ,, K. Pattabhiramayya.
35 ,, P. M. Thangal.
36 Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi.
37 Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu.
38 ,, C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
39 Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.
40 ,, V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.

Noes.

1 The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes.
2 ,, Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkatareddi Nayudu.
3 ,, Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
4 ,, Mr. C. A. Souter.
5 ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6 ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7 ,, the Raja of Bobbili.
8 Rao Bahadur G. Jagannatha Raju.
9 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
10 Mr. W. Scott-Brown.
11 ,, H. R. Uzielli.
12 ,, C. E. Jones.
13 Diwan Bahadur V. N. Viswanatha Rao.
14 Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
15 ,, T. B. Russell.
16 ,, T. Sundar Rao Nayudu.
17 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin.
18 Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai.
19 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.
20 Rao Bahadur B. P. Sesha Reddi.
21 Mr. G. Sriramulu.
22 ,, P. C. Moses.
23 ,, V. G. Vasudeva Pillai.
24 ,, W. P. A. Soundarapandiyan.
25 ,, C. Basu Dev.
26 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
27 The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
28 Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
29 ,, Daniel Thomas.
30 ,, H. M. Jagannatham.
31 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti.
32 Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanya Chetti.
33 The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
34 Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
35 Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
36 Mr. F. Birley.
37 ,, J. K. Metherell.
38 ,, W. K. M. Langley.
39 ,, J. M. Smith.
40 ,, R. Foulkes.

Ayes 40. *Noes* 40.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I maintain the *status quo* by voting against the motion."

The motion was lost.

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

V.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 1. [a] *Notification regarding the exclusion of the area occupied by the Cordite Factory, Aravankadu, and the Power Station at Kateri, from the jurisdiction of the Nilgiris local fund district.*

* 2. [b] *G.O. No. 57, Finance, dated 29th January* 1935, *regarding the election of M.R.Ry. A. V. Bhanoji Rao Garu,* M.L.C., *to the Finance Committee.*

3. [c] *Proceedings of the Finance Committee, dated 9th to 12th January* 1935.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

* Laid on the table of the House on 20th February 1935.
[a] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 222–226 infra.
[b] Printed as Appendix VII on page 227 infra.
[c] Printed separately.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 648 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd February 1935, page 143 supra.]

Statement No. I.

Number of appointments made.

	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	Total.
Deputy Inspectors—						
Senior grade	5	7	3	..	1	16 (a)
Junior grade	20	5	..	11	16	52 (b)
Sub-Assistant Inspectresses ..	4	3	..	5	1	13 (c)
Total ..	29	15	3	16	18	81

(a) All by promotion.
(b) 23 by direct recruitment and 29 by promotion.
(c) 12 by direct recruitment and 1 by promotion.

Statement No. II.

Distribution of persons appointed according to the district to which they belong.

Districts.		Districts.	
East Godavari ..	4	Tinnevelly ..	3
Tanjore ..	5	Salem ..	1
Malabar ..	10	South Kanara ..	5
North Arcot ..	5	West Godavari ..	1
Bellary ..	4	South Arcot ..	1
Coorg ..	1	Nellore ..	2
Chittoor ..	5	Chingleput ..	2
Trichinopoly ..	1	Anantapur ..	2
Ramnad ..	1	Vizagapatam ..	4
Travancore State ..	2	Guntur ..	2
Coimbatore ..	2	Madura ..	1
Kurnool ..	2		
Ganjam ..	8	Total ..	81
Kistna ..	2		
Madras ..	5		

Statement No. III.

Distribution of appointments according to communities.

	Number of persons.
Non-Brahman ..	33
Brahman ..	33
Muhammadan ..	6
Christian ..	8
Scheduled classes ..	1
Total ..	81

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 657 asked by Mr. K. A. Náchiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd February 1935, page 151 supra.]

Statement as to the number of clerks employed by the late taluk boards and the number absorbed by the orders of Government.

District.	Total number of taluk board clerks.	Number absorbed.	District.	Total number of taluk board clerks.	Number absorbed.
Anantapur ..	20	13	Kanara South ..	26	15
Arcot North ..	34	11	Kistna	39	15
Arcot South ..	36	15	Kurnool ..	21	11
Bellary	18	9	Madura	36	11
Chingleput ..	25	11	Malabar ..	49	25
Chittoor ..	24	12	Nellore	40	10
Coimbatore ..	38	15	Ramnad ..	46	15
Cuddapah ..	19	10	Salem	31	13
Ganjam	38	16	Tanjore	58	17
Godavari East ..	62	17	Tinnevelly ..	40	13
Godavari West ..	46	13	Trichinopoly ..	38	15
Guntur	45	13	Vizagapatam ..	37	17

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 662 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd February 1935, page 156 supra.]

District.	Number of clerks already under the district board.	District.	Number of clerks already under the district board.
Anantapur	21	Kanara, South	48
Arcot, North	61	Kistna	84
Arcot, South	55	Kurnool	26
Bellary	33	Madura	63
Chingleput	38	Malabar	76
Chittoor	27	Nellore	62
Coimbatore	75	Ramnad	47
Cuddapah	28	Salem	49
Ganjam	56	Tanjore	115
Godavari, East	76	Tinnevelly	44
Godavari, West	*74*	*Trichinopoly*	*53*
Guntur	57	Vizagapatam	60

22nd February 1935]

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 666 asked by Mr. C. Indrayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd February 1935, page 158 supra.]

Statement.

Serial number and name of villages for which proposals have been received.	Date of the order of constitution.
1 Varighedu	4th December 1934.
2 Rameswaram	4th December 1934.
3 Pekeru	4th December 1934.
4 Juttiga	4th December 1934.
5 Vogidi	4th December 1934.
6 Pali	4th December 1934.
7 Kapavaram	4th December 1934.
8 Somaraju—Illindalaparru	4th December 1934.
9 Ilaparru	4th December 1934.
10 Sreeparru	4th December 1934.
11 Paidiparru	4th December 1934.
12 Suryaraopalem..	4th December 1934.
13 Ballipadu	4th December 1934.
14 Duvva	4th December 1934.
15 Ajjaram	4th December 1934.
16 Khandavilli	4th December 1934.
17 Kanteumarru and Skinnerapuram	9th January 1935.
18 Maruteru and Neggipudi	These cases are pending orders.
19 Satyavaram	These cases are pending orders.
20 Kavalipuram	These cases are pending orders.
21 Pasalapudi	These cases are pending orders.
22 Chivatam	These cases are pending orders.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 669 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd February 1935, page 160 supra].

Statement of allotment and expenditure for the year 1929–30 *to* 1933–34.

Water-supply.

Year.	Original amount allotted.	Additional appropriation.	Surrender.	Net appropriation.	Expenditure. Administrative figure.	Expenditure. Treasury figure.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1929–30 ..	1,50,000	8,000	38,000	1,20,000	1,21,054	Not known. *
1930–31 ..	1,50,000	..	30,000	1,20,000	1,20,232	Not known. *
1931–32 ..	1,00,000	..	15,000	85,000	85,092	83,221 *
1932–33 ..	0,000	70,000	..	1,10,000	59,737	58,680 †
1933–34 ..	1,25,000	..	30,000	95,000	92,324	90,580 ‡

* No grant was allowed to lapse. The difference between the administrative figure and the Treasury figure represents the amount of uncashed pay orders. The reasons for surrender are due to the fact that panchayat boards failed to carry out the works in accordance with their undertaking.

† Reasons for lapse are due to the late allotment of grant in December 1932.

‡ The lapse is mainly due to the non-checkmeasurement of works by the Engineers in time and also to the receipt of bills on the last working day.

Roads.

Year.	Original amount allotted.	Additional appropriation.	Surrender.	Net appropriation.	Expenditure. Administrative figure.	Expenditure. Treasury figure.
1929–30 ..	1,50,000	18,000	..	1,68,000	1,69,920	Not known. *
1930–31 ..	1,50,000	*55,000	..	2,05,000	2,04,931	Not known. *
1931–32 ..	1,50,000	..	..	1,50,000	1,50,369	1,44,756 *
1932–33 ..	1,50,000	1,00,000	50,000	2,00,000	1,57,390	1,55,108 †
1933–34 ..	2,50,000	..	50,000	2,00,000	1,86,012	1,77,913 ‡

* Difference of Rs. 69 is too little to require any explanation.

† Reasons for lapse and surrender are due to late allotment of Government grant.

‡ The lapse was due mainly to the very late receipt of bills on the last working day of the year and also to the non-checkmeasurement of works by Assistant Engineers in time.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide item V (1) at page 220] supra.

NOTIFICATION.

***Fort St. George, January* 16, 1935**
(G.O. No. 162, *L. & M.).*

No. 93.—Whereas it is administratively inconvenient that the area occupied by the Cordite Factory, Aravankadu, and the Power Station at Kateri should be under the control of any local board, the Local Government, *in exercise* of the power conferred by clause (i) of sub-section (3) of section 3-A and by clause (*a*) of sub-section (2) of section 5 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, hereby exclude the said area comprising the survey numbers specified in the schedule from the jurisdiction of the Nilgiris Local Fund district.

SCHEDULE.

Schedule showing the survey numbers of the lands belonging to the Cordite Factory in the Coonoor and Ootacamund taluks, the Nilgiris district.

Survey number and subdivision.	Particulars.	Extent.	Survey number and subdivision.	Particulars.	Extent.
	COONOOR TALUK.			COONOOR TALUK—*cont.*	
	Jegathala village.			*Keti village*—cont.	
		ACS.			ACS.
64 A-1	Cordite Factory water channel	0·00-3/8	548	Cordite Factory	0·51
B-1	Do.	0·43	549 A	Do.	0·40
89 B	Do.	0·04	550 B	Do.	0·29
90 B	Do.	0·15	551 B	Do.	0·67½
91 B	Do.	0·01	552 B	Do.	2·45
D	Do.	0·16	553 B	Do.	0·22
F	Do.	0·38	C	Do.	0·07
98 B	Do.	0·02	554 B	Do.	1·77
104 B	Do.	0·23	556-11	Do.	0·02
105 B	Do.	0·08	561 B	Do.	1·08
114 B	Do.	0·36	562 B	Do.	0·13
115 B	Do.	0·01	563 C	Do.	0·05
126 B	Do.	0·00-3/8	380-2	High-tension line	0·03-2/8
C	Do.	0·03-4/8	410-2	Do.	0·08-2/8
127 B	Do.	0·54	411-1	Do.	0·02-7/8
128 B	Do.	0·40	2	Do.	0·01-3/8
D	Do.	0·24	413 D	Do.	0·13
129 B	Do.	0·09	444-2	Do.	0·08-5/8
130 B	Do.	0·12	445-2	Do.	0·04-2/8
131 B	Do.	0·01	448 D	Do.	0·08
133 C	Do.	0·04	452 C	Do.	0·37-3/8
135 B	Do.	0·08	492-1	Do.	0·04-3/8
137 B	Do.	0·06	493-1	Do.	0·04
138 B	Do.	0·14	494 D	Do.	0·02
141 B	Do.	0·20	180 B	Do.	0·00-4/5

143 A-1	Do.	0·30
B-2	Do.	0·02-2/8
144 B	Do.	0·10
145 B	Do.	0·18
147 E	Do.	0·95
150 C	Cordite Factory clerks' quarters	2·30
151 B	Cordite Factory water channel	0·06
D	Do.	2·88
152 A	Cordite Factory	5·20
164-1	Do.	3·48
206 B	Cordite Factory water channel	0·05
D	Do.	0·02
207 B	Do.	0·20
208 B	Do.	0·13
209 B	Do.	0·14
D	Do.	0·02
210 B	Do.	0·22
C/2	Do.	0·33
211 A	Do.	0·02
212 B	Do.	0·17
213 B	Do.	0·59
214 B	Cordite Factory and footpath	0·24
356 D	Cordite Factory water channel	0·48
357 B	Do.	0·13
361 B	Do.	0·11
363 B	Do.	0·43
369 A	Do.	0·00-1/8
370 A	Do.	0·00-1/8

Keti village.

454	Kateri officers' quarters	0·67
455 C	Cordite Factory	0·25
E	Do.	0·05
G	Do.	0·06
457 C	Do.	0·19
D	Do.	1·06
458 B	Do.	0·35
C	Do.	0·54
460 C	Do.	0·18
D	Do.	0·20
E	Do.	1·91
464 A	Do.	0·74
B	Do.	1·91
465 A	Cordite Factory Reservoir	0·63
B	Filter bed	0·50
472 B	Cordite Factory	2·30
476-1	Do.	0·82
477-1	Do.	0·55
478 A	Do.	0·88
B	Do.	0·40
479 B	Do.	0·89
480-1	Do.	1·60
546 B	Do.	0·00¼
547-1	Do.	0·75

181 C	Do.	0·01-2/8
183 C	Do.	0·03
365 B	Do.	0·11
366 J	Do.	0·12
376-2	Do.	0·02-6/8
379 B	Do.	0·04
F	Do.	0·15

Athigaratti village.

493 B	Cordite Factory	0·03
494 C	Do.	0·10
D	Do.	1·23
510 C	Do.	0·33
608 D	Do.	0·31
609 A	Do.	2·68
610 C	Do.	2·92
611 C	Do.	1·58
612 C	Do.	1·49
613 C	Cordite Factory channel	0·10
D	Cordite Factory camp	0·20
F	Cordite Factory	0·50
A	Do.	0·60
B	Do.	0·66
614 A	Do.	0·50
B	Cordite Factory supply channel	0·02
C	Cordite Factory	0·08
621	Do.	2·15
622	Do.	0·85
622-1	Do.	0·22
2	Do.	2·90
4	Do.	0·63
623-1	Do.	2·31½
2	Do.	0·00¼
634 A	Do.	2·77
F	Do.	1·14
1425	Cordite Factory upper dam	38·76

Hubbathalai village.

421	Cordite Factory	1·76
436 A	Do.	302·77
C	Do.	24·67
D	Do.	1·70
116 B	High-tension line	0·01¾
120 B	Do.	0·00-1/8
142 B	Telephone line	0·01-4/8
143 B	High-tension line	0·01
145 B	Do.	0·01-7/8
147 B	Do.	0·01-2/8
148 B	Do.	0·01-5/8
149 B	Do.	0·00-6/8
150 B	Do.	0·00-1/16
171 F-1	Do.	0·03

COONOOR TALUK—*cont.*

Hubbathalai village—cont.

Survey number and subdivision.	Particulars.	Extent.
		ACS.
197 D	Telephone line	0·01
B	High-tension line	0·10
198 A-2	Do.	0·07
B-1	Telephone line	0·01-4/8
199 B	High-tension line	0·00-4/8
201 B	Do.	0·08
D	Telephone line	0·04
202 D	High-tension line	0·05
D	Telephone line	0·04
203 B	High-tension line	0·03
D	Telephone line	0·02
205 B	High-tension line	0·03
D	Telephone line	0·02
206 B	High-tension line	0·12
D	Telephone line	0·06
207 B	High-tension line	0·12
D	Telephone line	0·03
220 B	High-tension line	0·04½
224 A	Do.	0·00-1/8
C	Do.	0·02-1/8
226 B	Do.	0·02
D	Do.	0·00-6/8
F	Telephone line	0·00-5/8
229 B	High-tension line	0·00-3/8
D	Telephone line	0·00-7/8
230 B	Do.	0·01
231 B	High-tension line	0·05
232 B	Telephone line	0·03
249 B	Do.	0·04
254 B	Do.	0·00-2/8
D	Do.	0·03
255 A	Do.	0·00-1/5
256 B	Do.	0·03
257 B	High-tension line	0·12
D	Telephone line	0·04
259 C	High-tension line	0·07
F	Telephone line	0·03
261 B	High-tension line	0·03-5/8
D	Telephone line	0·02-1/8
262 B	High-tension line	0·03-7/8

COONOOR TALUK—*cont.*

Hubbathalai village—cont.

Survey number and subdivision.	Particulars.	Extent.
		ACS.
262 D	Telephone line	0·02-4/8
264 B	High-tension line	0·09-4/8
D	Telephone line	0·02-6/8
265 B	High-tension line	0·01
266 B	Do.	0·01-7/8
267 B	Do.	0·00-2/8
C	Telephone line	0·07-6/8
268 B	High-tension line	0·02-1/8
269 B	Do.	0·04-3/8
D	Telephone line	0·00-3/8
288 B	High-tension line	0·02
289 C	Telephone line	0·08
293 A-2	High-tension line	0.00-6/8
A-4	Telephone line	0·01-7/8
B-1	Do.	0·00-1/8
324 B	High-tension line	0·10
D	Telephone line	0·02-4/8
F	High-tension line	0·03-3/8
339 B	Telephone line	0·04-2/8
340 A-1	High-tension line	0·01-1/8
A-3	Telephone line	0·02
F-2	Do.	0·00-4/8
341 C	High-tension line	0·03-7/8
342 C	Do.	0·04
E	Telephone line	0·01-3/8
343 C	Do.	0·06
412 B	High-tension line	0·01-6/8
D	Telephone line	0·01-4/8
416 C	High-tension line	0·12-5/8
417 C	Do.	0·03

OOTACAMUND TALUK.

Thummanatti village.

Survey number and subdivision.	Particulars.	Extent.
739 A-1	Cordite Factory water-supply channel.	0·06-5/8

Ootacamund village.

Survey number and subdivision.	Particulars.	Extent.
F 271 B	Cordite Factory water-course supply channel.	0·35

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide item V (2) at page 220 supra.]

G.O. No. 57, Finance, dated 29th January 1935.

READ—the following paper:—

G.O. No. 277, Finance, dated 3rd May 1934.

ABSTRACT.—Committees—Public Accounts and Finance—Constitution of—1934–35.

Order—No. 57, Finance, dated 29th January 1935.

M.R.Ry. A. V. Bhanoji Rao Garu, M.L.C., has been elected as a Member of the Standing Finance Committee by the non-official Members of the Legislative Council in the vacancy caused by the resignation by M.R.Ry. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti Garu of his seat in the Legislative Council, Madras.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

S. A. VENKATARAMAN,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To M.R.Ry. A. V. Bhanoji Rao Garu, M.L.C.
,, the Accountant-General.
,, *all Secretaries to Government.*
,, all Departments of the Secretariat.
,, the Members of the Finance Committee.
,, the Secretary, Legislative Council (for communication to the Members of the Legislative Council).

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Saturday, the 23rd February 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.
Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jagannatha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott-Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Commerce

Consultation with the Government of India regarding the imposition of duty on the import of rice in India.

* 682 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have been consulted by the Government of India regarding the imposition of duty on rice imported into India; and

(*b*) what reply the Government have given, and at what stage the question stands at present?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No. But as the Council is already aware, the Government have represented to the Government of India the necessity for restricting imports.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I ask the Hon. the Finance Member whether the Madras Government recommended to the Government of India the levy of some duty on rice? "

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—" I have repeatedly told the House that we have done so."

Forests

Assignment of lands disafforested in Salem district since 1930.

* 683 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the area disafforested in the Salem district is since the year 1930;

(*b*) of these, how many acres have so far been assigned;

(*c*) to whom and on what principles they have been assigned; and

23rd February 1935]

(*d*) whether there is any further proposal of disafforestation, and if so, in which place or places?

A.—(*a*) The following information is furnished:—

Year.	Area disreserved in acres.
1931	468·23
1932	217
1933	186·63

(*b*) Of the total extent mentioned above, an extent of 654 acres was disreserved for purposes of assignment. The survey of four blocks with a total area of 544 acres has not yet been completed and no assignments have been made in these blocks. The remaining block of 110 acres was surveyed with another block disreserved in 1930, the total extent of the two blocks being 519·85 acres. Of this extent 459·57 acres have already been assigned, and 17·76 acres have been set apart as poramboke. The remaining extent of 42·52 acres has not yet been assigned, owing to the lack of deserving applicants. It is not possible to give separate figures for the block of 110 acres disreserved in 1931.

(*c*) The assignments were made to the poor and needy ryots of Bommidi and other adjoining villages under Board's Standing Order No. 15.

(*d*) No.

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" Sir, in the course of the answer to clause (*b*) of this question it is said that it was not possible to assign a certain area owing to the lack of deserving applicants. May I know if there were applications from the depressed classes among them? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" There will certainly be some deserving people among the depressed classes."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" Then may I know why assignment was not made to them? "

Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—" Were there applications from the ex-military men, Sir? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" There would have been some."

Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—" May I know whether any lands were assigned in their names? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I do not know in these particular cases."

Enhancement of grazing fees in Guntur district.

* 684 *Q*.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have increased the rates for grazing permits in Guntur district; and

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(*b*) if so, what the special reasons are for such increase?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I enquire if it is not a fact that the Government levied an increased rate some two years ago?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" Will the hon. Member please state what villages he is referring to?"

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" I am talking about the Guntur district and not about any particular village?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" If the hon. Member gives any specific information I can ascertain."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" In the answer to clause (*a*) the Government say that they have not increased the rates. I want to know if that statement would be consistent if the Government had increased the rates two years ago?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I do not know if the hon. Member argues that the rates were increased."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" Yes, Sir."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I must ascertain."

Levy of a high rate as penalties and compounding fees for forest offences.

* 685 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that the ryots are charged very high penalties and compounding fees;

(*b*) whether there is any maximum fixed for the levy of such penalties; and

(*c*) if not, whether the Government have considered the desirability of fixing such a maximum?

A.—(*a*) It is presumed the question refers to forest offences. The Government have received no specific complaints in this sense.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Does not arise.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I know from the Hon. the Law Member what the maximum fixed for these penalties and compounding fees is?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" Speaking from memory I may tell the hon. Member that it is 4 times the usual grazing fees if the area is one where grazing is allowed and 10 times the usual fee if the area is one where grazing is not allowed."

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Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it a rule to be applied mechanically without taking into consideration any extenuating circumstances in particular cases? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" That is the maximum. Extenuating circumstances, if any, will also be considered."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that these people have to pay pounding charges in addition to the pounding fees levied by forest officers? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" I want notice of the question."

Irrigation

Alleged stoppage of the waters of the Cauvery at Mettur for two or three days during the end of November 1934.

* 686 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that water was stopped in the Cauvery at Mettur for two or three days towards the end of November last;

(*b*) if so, why;

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that there are other irrigation sources which are to be catered by the Cauvery in the districts of Salem and Trichinopoly;

(*d*) if so, whether they are aware that such a closure of water at Mettur affects the irrigation in the districts of Tanjore and Trichinopoly;

(*e*) whether any complaints have been received either from the people or from the authorities regarding such a stoppage of water; and

(*f*) if so, what orders have been passed in the matter, and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) Yes; from 27th November 1934 to 1st December 1934.

(*b*) There was fairly heavy rain in the Cauvery delta (1·30″) on the 23rd and 24th November 1934. Warnings of storm and rain were also received on the 26th and 27th November and there was widespread and heavy rain (about 4″ in the delta and 2·5″ in the upper reaches) on the 27th and 28th. No supply was therefore required for the delta from the Mettur Reservoir.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The closure was for a short period. In spite of the closure, the discharges at the upper and the Grand Anicuts show that there was ample supply in the river to meet the requirements of upper channels if they required any water in addition to the local rainfall.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) Does not arise.

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Provision under minor irrigation works in the Ceded districts.

* 687 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any Government Order fixing the amount to be spent on minor irrigation works in each of the districts in the Presidency and, if so, whether it would be placed on the table of the House;

(*b*) the actual amount spent on minor irrigation works in the famine areas in the year ending with March 1935;

(*c*) whether the amount spent in each district on minor irrigation works was quite in accordance with the Government Order; and

(*d*) whether the said Government Order was revised of late in consequence of the Mettur Project and Pykara Project or in accordance with the growing needs of the Ceded districts?

A.—(*a*) There is no such Government Order.

(*b*) The Government have not the information.

(*c*) & (*d*) Do not arise.

Land Revenue Adiministration

Report of the Collector of Nellore regarding the condition of paddy crops in Kovur and Nellore taluks.

* 688 *Q.*—The KUMARARAJA OF VENKATAGIRI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the report of the Nellore Collector about the condition of paddy crops in Kovur and Nellore taluks during this fasli; and

(*b*) whether the yield in general has been poor?

A.—(*a*) The Government bave not received any special report about the condition of paddy crops in the Kovur and Nellore taluks.

(*b*) The Government have no information other than what is contained in the weekly season reports which are published in the *Fort St. George Gazette.*

Supply of hill-grass in famine-stricken areas.

* 689 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether hill-grass is being distributed gratis in the famine areas or whether it is being sold and, if so, at what rate;

(*b*) whether land-cess labourers living on plying carts for hire are getting the hill-grass free;

(*c*) whether poor agriculturists who cannot command credit to raise money, are getting the hill-grass gratis;

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(*d*) if not, whether the Government are advancing fodder loans to such persons free of interest on easy instalments; and

(*e*) if so, what the terms are and whether there is any maximum and *minimum limit for the amount of such loans?*

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*).—As far as the Government are aware, hill-grass is being sold and is not being distributed free to any class of persons. The Government have no information as to the rate at which it is sold.

(*d*) & (*e*).—The Government are not advancing fodder loans free of interest to such persons.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"*With reference to the answers to* clauses (*c*), (*d*) and (*e*), may I request the Government to consider sympathetically the case of the poor agriculturists mentioned therein?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"I shall get the Collector's views."

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"May I ask whether the Government are making any profit out of this grass sold?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"I am sure they are not."

Special instructions, if any, to the Collector of Anantapur regarding the supply of hill-grass to cattle-owners.

* 690 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any special instructions have been issued to the Collector of Anantapur in detail regarding the supply of hill-grass to *cattle-owners in Anantapur district;*

(*b*) whether the said instructions specify the number or nature of the cattle for which alone the grass should be supplied; and

(*c*) whether a copy of any such instructions or orders will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*).—The only special instructions issued by the Government were that the Collectors should prescribe a maximum quantity beyond which fodder might not be sold to any one person in a week.

(*c*) The Government do not consider it necessary to place a copy of the instructions on the table of the House.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"May I ask the Hon. the Revenue Member whether any instructions have been issued to see that milch cattle also are supplied with grass?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"No instruction other than that given in the answer has been issued."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"May I submit, Sir, that the answer is not quite clear. It only says that the Collectors should prescribe a

maximum quantity beyond which fodder might not be sold to any one person in a week. I want to know whether milch cattle are included with regard to the quantity of grass issued?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I have said that the maximum beyond which fodder should not be sold to any one person has been fixed. *It is not stated there that that is the maximum to any one animal.*"

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know the maximum quantity a person may claim for purchase?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I understand that the Collector has fixed 1 cwt. per week."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether that maximum has been fixed with reference to the number of cattle owned by an individual or whether it has been fixed without any reference to the number owned by him?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I cannot say, Sir."

Cost price and sale price of hill-grass at the depots in the famine areas of Anantapur district.

* 691 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the actual cost of hill-grass at the depots started in the famine areas of Anantapur district; and

(*b*) the actual selling price of the grass at each of the depots?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*).—The information is not available with the Government.

Public Service

Posts to which selection could not be made by the Madras Services Commission on account of paucity of Muslim and depressed class candidates.

* 692 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number and nature of the posts for which selection could not be made by the Madras Services Commission during the last two years for want of candidates from amongst the Muslim community and depressed classes; and

(*b*) whether these posts have since been filled up by members of other communities?

A.—(*a*) A statement [a] is enclosed.

(*b*) Yes.

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 298 infra.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Sir, in the appendix furnished to the answer to this question it is stated: ' If the turns lost to these communities (Muhammadans and Scheduled classes) in the previous year for want of qualified and suitable candidates are included, the figures will be for typists and steno-typists, 55 Muhammadans and 27 Scheduled classes and for clerks, 260 Muhammadans and 192 Scheduled classes.' May I know what exactly is the qualification which they were not able to satisfy and on account of which they were not selected? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" That is entirely a matter for the Services Commission. The qualifications are laid down by Government, and if candidates do not satisfy those qualifications, it is for the Services Commission to do what is best."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" My question was what the qualifications are which those candidates were not able to satisfy and on account of which the number not selected came so high? The Government would know this as it is they who prescribe the qualifications? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" The Government are not aware of the reasons why the Services Commission rejected this candidate or that."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I ask the Hon. the Revenue Member whether it is not a fact that on account of type-writing having been fixed as a qualification for the Ministerial service, many candidates of these communities have been disqualified? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" I will make enquiries. I have no exact information."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Sir, if the facts are as stated by me, will the Government consider the advisability of exempting them from the necessity for passing the typewriting examination for some number of years? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" I am afraid I cannot make such a promise."

Agriculture

Publication of the proceedings of the Madras Marketing Board.

* 693 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many meetings have till now been held by the Madras Marketing Board; and

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to lay the proceedings of those meetings on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) One meeting of the Provincial Marketing Board was held on 16th November 1934.

(*b*) A copy * of the minutes of that meeting held on 16th November 1934 is appended.

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 299–300 infra.

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Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I ask the Hon. the Minister for Public Works in view of the opinion expressed by the Marketing Board, whether the Government have taken steps to take to the notice of the Government of India the necessity for fixing a quota for the import of Burma rice into India? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" The report of the special officer was communicated to the Government of India."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the Provincial Marketing Board recommended to this Government to request the Government of India to consult them before the negotiations with Burma reported in the press are concluded as Madras is interested very much in this question; and if so, whether this Government addressed the Government of India and what reply, if any, was received? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" That particular portion I am not aware of."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" In view of the urgency and importance of the matter, may I know when the informal conference of factory-owners and growers referred to in Subject 4 of the minutes of the meeting of the Provincial Marketing Board is likely to be convened? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Rules are being framed. They are under consideration. After the rules are framed, a conference will be convened."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Will the Hon. Minister please say whether the Provincial Marketing Board has made a recommendation that the Madras Government should be consulted by the Government of India before they came to any conclusion in regard to the negotiations with Burma? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" The minutes of the meeting of the Marketing Board are in the hands of the hon. Member. I am afraid, I cannot add anything to them."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I ask whether the Madras Government have taken any steps to increase the number of ports as per the recommendation of the Marketing Board? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I believe there is now one more port."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I know the name of that port? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I believe it is Tranquebar."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" May I know who is entrusted with the work of framing the rules? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" The Director of Agriculture."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Are the Government aware of the agitation to open another port in the Telugu districts? "

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The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I am not aware of it."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Will the Hon. Minister make enquiries?"

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I do not think the Hon. Minister is in charge of Ports and Pilotage."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the Marketing Board has recommended to the Government that the Marketing Officer should investigate the possibility of giving loans through co-operative societies for cultivation expenses; and if so, whether the Hon. Minister has taken the trouble to consider this question and come to any conclusion?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The Registrar of Co-operative Societies is a member of the Board and he will do what is possible."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Has the Director of Agriculture submitted the draft rules and are they under the consideration of Government?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I have already stated that the framing of the rules is under consideration."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Railways

Alienation of lands for opening a railway from Tiruvannamalai to Kallakurchi.

694 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government have been requested by the Government of India to take steps for the alienation of the lands for the purpose of opening a railway from Tiruvannamalai to Kallakurchi;

(*b*) if so, whether the alienation has been made; if not, why not; and

(*c*) what the proposed route from Tiruvannamalai to Kallakurchi along which lands are to be alienated, is?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise.

Forest Panchayats

Fall in the income under grazing fees.

695 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is a gradual fall in the income under grazing fees in the forests under the control of the departmental officers, and whether any action has been taken thereon;

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(*b*) whether any such recovery was made from the officers concerned;

(*c*) whether the conditions in the agreement are changed year after year;

(*d*) whether the conditions that are newly imposed are brought to the notice of the Government and their permission obtained; and

(*e*) whether the Local Government have examined the conditions and satisfied themselves that the new conditions are calculated for the betterment of the forest panchayats?

A.—(*a*) The income has increased slightly in the past three years.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) No. The agreements with forest panchayats are executed in the form printed at pages 1143–1146 of Board's Standing Order, Volume IV, which has been standardized for the purpose. The conditions mentioned in this form are not generally altered. The agreements ordinarily run for a period of three years.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) Does not arise.

Rate of fee for the removal of green manure from the Government forests and the Panchayat forests, respectively.

696 *Q*.—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the rates charged are for the removal of green manure from forests (i) under the Forest department and (ii) under the Forest panchayat;

(*b*) whether there are varying rates from district to district and within the same district;

(*c*) what the total income received under this head is;

(*d*) whether there is any increase in income consequent on the raising of the rate; and

(*e*) whether there is a fall in the number of permits issued on account of the increase in rates?

A.—The Government have no information. They have called for it.

Irrigation

Resumption of the Tank Restoration Scheme investigation work.

697 *Q*.—Mr. I. C. Iswaran Pillai: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Tank Restoration Scheme investigation work is proposed to be resumed; and

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(b) whether the Government have considered the question of laying down a programme for its completion and, if so, what is the result of the same?

A.—(a) & (b) It is not proposed to revive the Tank Restoration Scheme work as such at present; but Government have under their consideration a proposal to undertake an accelerated and widespread programme of improvements to irrigation tanks in the Presidency provided it can be treated as capital expenditure.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1935-36—*cont.*

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Before the House resumes the general discussion of the Budget, I wish to inform hon. Members that there is a very big race to-day (*Laughter*) of Members who are anxious to speak and as such the time-limit for speeches will have to be strictly conformed to."

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, Sir Hopetoun Stokes is to lay down his office at the end of the Budget meeting next month. This is therefore the opportune time for us to review the financial position for the past 5 years. It so happens, Sir, that thanks to the two extensions given to the life of this Council, the 4½ years of this Council coincide with the period of office of the Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes. Therefore in reviewing his work we are reviewing practically the work done by this Council in connexion with finance for the last 4½ years.

" Sir, there was a deficit of over a crore of rupees in the first year (1930–31) of office of Sir Hopetoun Stokes, the year for which the Budget had been prepared by his predecessor. That was not a very cheerful beginning for the Finance Member. That was followed by trade and economic depression in the following year which created a very difficult situation. But, thanks to the retrenchment which was very vigorously carried out, the contemplated deficit of 50 lakhs was actually turned into a surplus of 5·41 lakhs. The fact that there was room for retrenchment proves that the cost of administration was such that it could have been well reduced without any loss of efficiency. If therefore instead of effecting temporary retrenchment, the cost of administration had been permanently reduced, it would have made our financial position easier for ever without any deterioration in the administration.

" Sir, at a time when all classes of people have reduced their cost of living, it is not in keeping with the general order of things that the cut should be restored to the services. In the following year there was a surplus and Sir Hopetoun Stokes was fortunate enough to show a surplus of 77 lakhs. Land revenue concessions that were granted have resulted in the loss of Rs. 1,32,00,000 last year and this year, and 11-1 a.m.

there will be a loss of Rs. 53,00,000 next year. That, Sir, is not a very big amount. Government could have easily doubled the rate of concession without 'crippling its finances' and 'disorganizing its machinery' *as was nervously feared by the Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes.*

"I am not enamoured, Sir, of large balances, nor of surpluses, especially when they are brought about by withholding relief to the agriculturists in their sore distress. As the Government of India refused to receive premature payments of loans from the Government of Madras, the latter was wise in investing its available amount in projects the financing of which would have otherwise necessitated borrowing. The debt position of this Province is very strong on which we may congratulate ourselves. The Pykara, the Cauvery Mettur and the Kattalai schemes, as observed by the Hon. the Finance Member, are no doubt highly valuable assets which will in course of time be good sources of revenue.

"I would have liked, Sir, that larger amounts were spent on Part II Schemes, but considering the depression that we had to face which affected our finances continuously for three years, it is a source of some satisfaction to note that 28 lakhs of rupees could be spent a year on Part II Schemes.

"On the whole, Sir, our financial position in the last quinquennium was such that we cannot but express our satisfaction. For the great ability, Sir, with which Sir Hopetoun Stokes has steered the barge of finance through troubled waters in the last five years, he deserves a good meed of praise and even our gratitude. In the stereotyped system in which the finances are worked in Indian Provinces, there is no scope for planning bold schemes and initiating courageous measures. At any rate the formulation of a broad national policy of finances cannot be expected from any sun-dried British Civilian at the end of his period of exile.

"Time has come, Sir, when Government should divest themselves of the idea that they are a big landlord and the revenue that they are getting from the land is rent upon their property. Land revenue must not be treated as rent. It is nothing but a tax, pure and simple. It is not the gross yield of the harvest alone that the Government should have as the basis for their share of the revenue but they should also consider whether the value of the yield leaves anything to the cultivator after paying the Government kist. The settlement policy requires drastic overhauling in order that we may arrange our revenue in consonance with the altered economic conditions under which we are now living. Resettlements in some of the districts in the face of opposition has generally resulted in enhancement of the rates which has increased the distressful condition of the ryot population. Therefore the addition of 20 lakhs of rupees a year to our land revenue which is expected as a result of recent resettlements cannot be considered as a source of satisfaction.

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" Next to land revenue, Sir, excise is one of the two principal sources of revenue. Like opium, excise is destined to disappear at no distant time. If we advocate large remissions of land revenue from time to time, reduction of taxation and the abolition of excise revenue on the one hand and we ask for larger and larger expenditure specially on nation-building departments, on the other, we lay ourselves, no doubt, to the charge of irresponsibility, and the Hon. the Finance Member was never tired of throwing it in our face in season and out of season. But it is conveniently forgotten that situated as we are, it is not given to us to cut our coat according to our cloth nor to order for the cloth big enough to cover our coat.

" Sir, the whole system of taxation requires overhauling and our expenditure requires to be so revised as to obtain the maximum benefit with the revenue available to us. We were looking forward, Sir, to the inauguration of a Constitution which would enable us to put our house in order in the manner we liked, but the so-called Provincial Autonomy that is going to be granted to us is not calculated to satisfy our ambition in this respect in the slightest degree. So it is not with any more encouraging prospect that we can look forward to the first five years after the beginning of the new Constitution."

*Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu:—" The Hon. the Finance Member deserves the congratulations of the House for the balanced Budget he has presented. It is during his regime that the country has passed through the worst phase of depression but he has weathered it triumphantly. He has kept rigorously the principle of adjusting closely revenue receipts to revenue expenditure and he has been able to achieve this by a strong control over expenditure. There is an increase of debt of about 50 lakhs in the quinquennium and it is only the productive debt that has increased and the unproductive debt has been reduced considerably. I cannot but confess to a sense of disappointment in the matter of revenue remissions. Just now there are signs of the depression loosening its grip but it is yet to be seen whether those signs would prove real or ephemeral. Although there is a slight rise in the level of prices, there will be practically nothing left to the ryot after meeting the cultivating expenses and the Government kist. Though the Government might have felt it impossible to give effect to the resolution passed by the Council which involves a great diminution in the receipts, it will surely have been within practical finance to remit at least to the extent of 18¾ per cent in the recently resettled districts. Instead of calculating the loss in rupees, annas and pies, if the Government had visualized the ragged poverty, semi-starvation and heavy indebtedness of the poor agriculturist, I am sure their humaneness would have been touched and they would have adopted a more generous course and given a higher percentage of remission.

" While thanking, however, the Government for making some provision for irrigation improvements in the Godavari delta, I am sorry that they have not moved an inch further in the matter of initiating

11 a.m.

[Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu] [23rd February 1935

any of the projects in the northern districts which have long been overdue. Year after year I have been bringing to the notice of the Government that the Coringa Island project which will be a remunerative one and which costs not more than 7 or 8 lakhs will have to be re-examined in all its details and work should be commenced as early as possible. It will serve about 15,000 acres at a comparatively small cost and it will be a profitable venture if the Government launch it. *Sir Archibald* Campbell once personally came there, examined the place and had talks with the ryots. I wish to know whether the Government have dropped the project or whether they will take it up at an early date. It is highly regrettable that while crores of rupees are being spent upon costly projects in the south, the claims of the Northern districts should be relegated to the background. The Government should repair the wrong done to these districts and start some of the most necessary projects and afford irrigation facilities to vast areas of land which are lying idle. I also wish to draw the attention of the Hon. the Revenue Member to the great hardship caused by the Government adopting the new procedure in the matter of second crop assessment. Instead of assessing the land actually cultivated, they have assessed the whole plot although only a portion of is cultivated. This is a departure from the normal method and I do not know what actuated the Government to adopt it when the agriculturist is hard hit by continuous depression and successive floods. I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to consider this question with his characteristic sympathy and reassure the confidence of the ryots in the justice and fairplay of the Government by cancelling this new procedure which smacks of unjust extortion.

" I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. the Chief Minister to the necessity of finding funds for constructing the hospital at Cocanada on the site recently acquired. The present hospital has not space enough to accommodate the patients. It is with great difficulty that they could improvise accommodation for about 100 beds and it will be a terrible inconvenience to the patients who are put up in the sheds in summer and rainy weather. I request that early steps may be taken to supply the great want in the headquarters of the district where the best medical aid should be rendered available.

" Some of the previous speakers have dwelt upon the great importance of improving the cottage industries which will be of help to relieve the chronic poverty of the people. There are so many other industries which may be started with advantage. For instance there are vast areas of land under coconut plantations in the Circars where coir industry can be started on a large scale which would also in a way solve the unemployment problem in those areas. Again there are large China clay deposits and pottery works can be started and insulators can be made which are in great demand. I wish the Government would appoint a Ceramic expert again for some time so that some of the resources of the country which are lying idle may be used for the good of the people and the country."

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* MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I would like, on an occasion like this, to have my say on the stock-taking of the finances of this Province and this is all the more necessary when the Hon. Member who has been in charge of the finances of this Province is laying down his office and has presented his last Budget. He has applied one test to see whether the finances of the country are sound; we, the elected Members of this House, have to test the finances of the Province by another test, namely, how far has the year's labours resulted in the increased productive capacity of the citizens of the Province. It is that test that we have to apply in examining the Budget of the year, in reviewing the financial condition of the Province. Sir, I must say that I see irresponsiveness on the part of the Government with regard to the repeated demands made for larger concessions to the agriculturists in the matter of land revenue concessions. Arguments have been marshalled out, arguments to show that it is necessary for such concessions being shown. The agriculturist is also troubled with a number of minor vexations, and this House has repeatedly been insisting upon the reduction in grazing fees, a demand which has not been heeded to even to this day. Then there is the question of the Hon. Members of the Government being responsive to the other demands made by hon. Members of this House for the relief of the agriculturist. Take for example, the oft-repeated question of starting the Tungabhadra Project. If that project is launched upon, we will not have had famine conditions as at present in the Ceded districts including the Bellary district. May we ask whether it requires interminable number of years for projects to mature in this Province? If so, what are those difficulties which stand in the way of the Government embarking npon such projects? Again when unemployment is rife and rainfall dubious, when silt clearance to tanks is necessary, we find the Hon. the Finance Member saying that the Government of India have decided upon an extended programme of silt clearance to irrigation tanks in this Province but that the programme is not yet ready; a special officer has been appointed whose labours for six months have not resulted in any definite proposals being placed before the House in the Budget speech of the Hon. Member. When the prices of the agricultural products are rolling down the inclined plane, may I ask in all humility what the Government have done to stop the catastrophic fall? May I ask whether the Government are aware of the loss which the agriculturist is having, because no measures have been adopted to stop this downward trend in prices of raw products. Then on the question of the reduction of the cost of cultivation,-may I ask whether all the scientific advances in the agricutural field have penetrated the villages; if it has done so, why has the agriculturist not taken largely to these scientific improvements which other countries have successfully spread into the villages?

" Take the village industries. I think the House will agree with me when I say that the village industries in our country have been languishing; the most important village industry of this Province, namely, the handloom industry is in a very precarious condition. May I ask what

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has been done for the relief and aid of this village industry, handloom weaving, on a suitable basis so as to allow a living wage, a decent livelihood to the large number of persons who are engaged in it? I am told that two million weavers exist in this Province and the number of persons depending upon these two million people must come to 7 or 8 millions. Then there are other cottage industries which have been examined by several committees. My hon. Friend from Coimbatore, Diwan Bahadur Ramalingam Chettiyar, referred to these industries, the ceramic industry, the oil industry, the lace industry, etc., which have been surveyed but not encouraged or started.

" I must also say that the administration of the portfolio of Co-operation by my good friend, the Second Minister has not been so useful as we all expected. Co-operation has not yet been made the hand-maid of industry or agriculture and it is to this day merely following the time-honoured methods of conservative credit policy. I have already stated that the trade prosperity of this country is only possible with a well-defined and planned organization of industrial expansion. Sir, I would humbly suggest that the policy of *laissez faire* which the Government have been adopting in the matter of industrial expansion must be given up once for all.

" I have to invite the pointed attention of the House to the question of the wasteful expenditure which has been brought to the notice of this House over and over again. Increased expenditure on nation-building activities and on General Administration has not been synonymous with the increased efficiency or increased happiness and prosperity of the agriculturists. Waste and extravagance are writ large and probably an example will make my point clear with regard to the extravagant expenditure involved under the present system of administration. We have in the district, the District Collector, the District Health Officer, the District Medical Officer, the Executive Engineer, the Agricultural Officer, the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, and a host of officers who, instead of conferring together on many points, go on working in their own spheres as in concentric circles. Questions that can be solved by mutual consultation in the course of a couple of hours, take a couple of months to be solved. If necessary, I am prepared to substantiate the statement that I have made. I would at the same time say that similar services rendered by the local bodies are much cheaper in cost and as efficient and prompt as the Government machinery.

" The Hon. the Finance Member has complained about the inelasticity of the revenues of the Province. I would suggest that, like a true physician, he must not only diagnose the disease but also prescribe the cure: the way to that cure I do not find anywhere in the Budget. It may be that this situation is due to the fact that we are not sovereign in our own country and that the policy affecting the larger interests of the country and the economic prosperity of the Province is sometimes dictated by Whitehall and Lancashire to further then interests rather than the true interests of this country. The Hon. the Finance Member situated as he is, cannot probably be blamed for it.

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"I would like to observe that we should no doubt compliment the Hon. the Finance Member on the balanced Budget which he has placed before the House. But in his anxiety to balance the Budget, I am afraid he has not seen far beyond his nose. Though this Budget may be called a successful Budget, it is a Budget which has resulted in the collapse of the agriculturist and of the hand-loom weaving industry of this province. I am reminded of the surgical operation which for statistical purposes is termed 'operation successful but patient collapsed.' Similarly we can say the Budget is successful but agriculture is collapsing. I may point out that the net result of the administration of the province during the last so many years has been that the agriculturist who has invested large sums of money, energy and attention on the lands, the expected promise of fair living has vanished and the land has become the land of 'lost hopes.' I do not lay the entire charge at the doors of the Hon. the Finance Member and when the new Constitution is brought into being when the Chief Minister can be rightly held to be responsible for the affairs and condition of the province, we will certainly take the opportunity of criticising his policy. It is a pity I have to refer to the abnormally low productive capacity of the citizen in our Province.

"I may humbly suggest that the coming Finance Member and those responsible for the administration of this Province must take the co-operation of leading economists of this Province and if necessary, form a brain trust if they feel themselves anæmic and unable to evolve a solution for the present difficulties. 11-45 a.m

"Sir, I would conclude by saying that in wishing good-bye to the Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes, we wish him well for the future, and while thanking him for all that he has done to us and for presenting to us a balanced Budget in the sense that I have referred to, I hope in reflecting on the occasion of laying down his office he will console himself that there is notoriously lacking what is known as gratitude in politics and in public life."

* Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"Mr. President, Sir, in the first place I must offer my congratulations to the Hon. the Finance Member. I believe that three generations of his family have worked in this province holding high positions and have done great service to us; and it is with great regret that we feel that very soon he will have to leave us. But I shall not be doing my duty as a Member of this Council if I do not refer to certain features of the Budget, and I trust, Sir, that my remarks will not be taken amiss.

"I am afraid, Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member has been obsessed with the idea that he must leave a full exchequer to the responsible Ministers who are to come into power under the new Constitution. He has been following the maxim 'safety first'; but there is also another maxim 'live dangerously' which applies not only to individuals but also to Governments. There are times when he ought to take risks in the interests and welfare of the country; but I am afraid, Sir, the Hon. the

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Finance Member, able as he is, did not rise to the occasion when the question of land revenue remission was under consideration. We find that all over India there is a feeling prevailing that the land revenue system must be overhauled. We ourselves raised the question several times in this Council. I believe my Friend, Mr. Raman Menon raised the question last year and said that the revenue should be based on the actual price of the crops every year. There was also a resolution which was passed—or at least proposed—in this Council that payment should be made in kind and not in money, so that, the landlord might not have to suffer from violent fluctuations of prices. But no action was taken in this regard by our Government. We find, however, that Sir Malcolm Hailey was in favour of the overhauling of this system, and we also find that in the Punjab it has been decided that revenue should be based upon the value of the crop every year. It is unfortunate, Sir, that this measure of reform has not been adopted in this Province in spite of the repeated requests made by the public. I wonder whether this is due merely to the fact that much revenue will be lost and whether it is not also partly due to the fact that Government felt that overstatements were made by the people and that they were not stating facts when they said they were suffering very much under the present system. But now we have got the opinion of Mr. Langley who spoke a great deal in favour of the Government. He said that the agricultural interest has been bled-white. What satisfaction is it to us that we have got a balanced budget or that a full exchequer will be left to the future Government, if the agricultural interest in which we are all of us interested has been bled white, and will be bled whiter still during the next financial year? The question of overhauling the whole system will have to be taken in hand, and I trust the Hon. the Finance Member will take the first steps towards this end before he gives up the reins of his office. No doubt it is a good thing to leave a legacy of a good exchequer to the future Government, but you must not leave a legacy of wrong principles. I do not see why the Hon. the Finance Member should be so much wedded to the idea of *status quo* and say that nothing should be done to change the present system. Surely, the Hon. the Finance Member, although he is not responsible to the public now, ought to be responsive to public opinion.

"The question of having a tax on agricultural incomes as such is found in Australia and should, I think, be considered in this country. What is the cost of collection of income-tax? And what is the cost of collecting land revenue? The other day Sir James Grigg said in the Legislative Assembly that we ought to consider the land revenue not as rent but as a tax and that we should apply the canons of taxation to the collection of land revenue. Well, let us see what the cost of collecting land revenue is. I think it is something like 20 per cent or a little more. There is not anything to be found in the official records to show the actual cost, but I believe it is about 20 per cent. The cost of collection of income-tax is only about 2 per cent. Therefore, we shall be saving about 18 per cent out of the total collection, something like one

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or one and a half crores of rupees, if we adopt the system of collecting revenue from land in the same manner as we collect income-tax. I trust, Sir, that something will be done to rectify the present system and that whatever the difficulties may be, some attempt will be made to solve this big question.

"I come now to the question of excise. I find that after all the Government have discovered that the existing policy has not achieved the object they had in view. During the last four years, the number of cases of illicit manufacture of arrack has gone up by 80 per cent. The policy adopted by the Government of charging a high price for arrack has not achieved the object of reducing consumption. What has happened is that the consumer instead of going to a licit shop goes to an illicit manufacturer and buys from him. The profits which ought to go to the Government, the profits which may go a long way in alleviating the sufferings of the agriculturists, are going now into the hands of what may be called bootleggers. I trust the Government will go a step further and will adopt the system of monopoly. The profits are now going into the hands of a few. Here again Mr. Raman Menon pointed out at the time of the last Budget that it was desirable to have a monopoly. We find, for instance in the South Kanara district, that a lot of coconut, palmyra and other toddy is wasted at any rate from the Government point of view. What happens is that people who want to drink arrack go only to the illicit manufacturer who makes use of this toddy. Supposing this toddy was utilized by the Government, there would be a distinct profit to the Government and the question of finance will be solved. One is rather reluctant to touch upon this question since whenever one begins to talk of arrack, people say that it is very wrong to do so. I do not want to increase the consumption of arrack; we must go to the root of the evil. If you want to prevent the evil, you must make propaganda for the purpose; but at the same time, so long as it is there, it is desirable to see that no part of the revenue derived from sale of arrack goes to private individuals. The whole of it must go to the Government.

"Then I want to say a few words about the ceramic industry. Some time ago an expert was appointed and we were hoping that the expert would develop the industry. He made a survey of the various kinds of soil in the different parts of the province, but before he could introduce the industry, he was retrenched. I do not see in the present Budget any sign of his being reappointed. The result is that a very important source of revenue has probably been denied to us. I say all this, Sir, because the Hon. the Finance Member wants to know any further sources of revenue.

"Another point I would like to impress upon the Hon. the Finance Member is the desirability of taking proper steps to get a contribution from amounts collected by the Government of India by way of income-tax and other taxes, which under the new Constitution Bill will be shared by both the Provinces and the Central Government."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Time is up."

Mr. M. S. SESHIA :—" I would only mention a small point. I have been very anxious to see that the Connemara Library is kept open throughout the week days till 8 o'clock. The reply usually given is ' no funds.' It looks to me that the Hon. the Finance Member can see things only with his own eyes and that he cannot take the views of anybody else. I should presume that the Hon. the Minister for Education will press for additional provision for the Connemera Library; otherwise, I am afraid I would have to pass on the blame from the Hon. the Finance Member to the Hon. the Minister for Education.

" No reference has been made to any road in the South Kanara district in the Budget. We suffer very badly, Sir, from want of good roads, and if we have better roads and better bridges in the South Kanara district, it will be better not only for that district, but for the whole province. Nothing has been provided for in the Budget for roads and bridges in South Kanara. There are trunk roads for the maintenance of which Government funds are utilized. We have now the Road Development Board too, and the South Kanara district, although it suffers very badly from want of roads, is not represented on that board.

" Well, Sir, with these remarks I shall close, trusting that something will be done to consider the interests not only of the districts which are well off in the matter of roads and bridges, but also of the cinderella of the province."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, it has become the practice, or as the Hon. the Home Member suggests, the fashion, for all Members of the House to come forward and represent the grievances of the people they represent in this Council before Hon. Members of the Government. We under the present Constitution have no more power than to stand before them and represent to them what exactly the people of this country feel with regard to the way in which the finances are managed and money is spent either for their own benefit or for the benefit of others.

" Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member has, in the Budget speech, stated that he was presenting the Budget of this province for the last time. He has been here for the last five years and in his own way has been doing his best to balance the Budgets year after year and even this year, Sir, after the three or four years of depression it has been possible for him, at least in the books, to show that the Budget is balanced. Well, Sir, there is no doubt that it is very difficult to balance the Budget of the Government and when he has done so, he has done a very successful thing. But, at the same time, we who represent the people have to bring to the notice of the Government the fact that it does not help the people in any way to see that the Budget is balanced. We must find out whether, just as the Government have balanced their Budget, the people have in their own turn found it possible to balance their own budgets. It is at the expense of the budgets of the people that the Government have been able to balance their Budget. What is

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the position of the people of this country? The case of the agriculturist has been referred to by hon. Members who have preceded me. They have stated how the condition of the agriculturists has been reduced to a very deplorable level. They have not only suffered on account of the depression that has been prevalent during the last four or five years, but they have become bankrupt on account of the fact that they had to pay the kist year after year without any adequate remission being granted to them. Representations were made and even resolutions were passed in this Council, almost unanimously, asking for adequate remission of assessment. The Government did not think it fit to accept the decisions of this Council and did not give the remission for which the resolutions were passed.

"As has been already stated, the Government have to revise their attitude towards the land tax. Two hon. Members who have spoken before me to-day have pointed out that Government should no longer consider this tax as rent, but as a mere tax. It is only when the Government regard the revenue from land as tax and not as rent, that it will be possible for the Government to have a new orientation with regard to its policy. The Government, as I have already stated, have been trying to prepare their Budget and levy the tax without reference to the paying capacity of the tax-payer. Land revenue, Sir, is one of the main sources of revenue to the Government, the next being excise. This is one of the two sources on which the Government have been depending for years together. The Hon. the Finance Member himself has stated that these are the two main sources of revenue and that the Government have not been able to find out other sources of revenue. That is a matter with regard to which we have to feel very much disappointed. It is the duty of the Government to find out other sources of revenue instead of depending upon this main source which has been becoming weaker and weaker on account of conditions over which the people have no control. When the Government find that this source is being depleted and is becoming weaker and weaker, it is the duty of a resourceful Finance Member and a resourceful Government to find ways and means to tap other sources of revenue. When the Government have not been able to find those sources, it means the Government have failed to do their duty. . ."

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I never said Government have failed. I said that the question has to be considered."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Government have taken, at least in the regime of the Hon. the Finance Member, five years to find ways and means of securing other sources of revenue and I do not know to whom the Hon. the Finance Member is going to leave the responsibility of finding out other sources of revenue and when the Government are going to revise their policy with regard to this source of revenue. There is no use saying that other sources have not been found. Government may revise the policy and continue revising the policy without giving any relief to the agriculturist.

"Again, Sir, Government resorted to retrenchment in past years and that retrenchment was only temporary. If retrenchment was permanent, it was only in the case of the poorer classes of people, because a large number of them were sent out of work and a considerable number of them lost also a considerable portion of their salary, whereas the people at the top were not affected whatsoever. Even this temporary cut was restored and as such it was only a nominal retrenchment; thus the expenditure on establishment has been maintained in the same state. If really the Government are sincere and wish to retrench, they can do so in many directions, not only in the reduction of the number of officers, but even in the high salaries that are paid to a very large number of officers of Government. If the Government are really sincere and anxious to cut down expenditure, they can do so by appointing a non-official committee to go into the question of the number of officers who are supernumerary and the amount of salary and allowances that are paid to very many Government officials. Unfortunately after the war, prices went up and the cost of living also went up and people began to have very different ideas of their status, and on account of the high salaries that are given by the Government, the whole notion of life has become very false and artificial. On account of all these circumstances the expenditure has grown, and as the expenditure has grown, the burden falls on the head of the poor tax-payer. Therefore, Sir, it is high time that Government revised their view of taxation in this province.

"Government take great pride in saying that it has been possible for them to spend 25 lakhs, or a little more, on new schemes in this year's budget. Out of 1,600 lakhs of rupees to spend a paltry sum of 25 lakhs seems to be a great achievement on the part of the Government. Well, Sir, if the money has been spent, it has been spent to a very large extent on establishment, and the amount that has been left over after meeting the establishment charges has been spent on nation-building departments; and this has not been very satisfactory.

"I am afraid we will have to revise our views as to the usefulness of the education that is imparted in our province, and see whether the money that is spent is usefully spent and whether it is not necessary for us to reconsider the policy of the Government in the matter of education. I am, however, glad that as a result of the Educational Conference, the Government of India have considered it necessary to ask for the opinion of the Provincial Governments with regard to the attitude that should be taken in the revision of the curricula and various other matters connected with education. The Hon. the Education Minister of this province would have by this time, if he had not done so already, reviewed the system of education in this province and I hope he will suggest ways and means by which education will be made real and useful to the people, in order to promote literacy, and not remain as it is to-day when although money is spent the proportion of literacy is not raised even after boys pass through the elementary classes.

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" One word more, Sir, before I finish, and that is with regard to the communal Government Order, and how it has worked. I must express my utter dissatisfaction at the manner in which it has been worked. Government might have made proposals for the proper working of the communal Government Order, but there are vested interests which have been, in season and out of season, putting all possible obstacles to circumvent the proper and sincere working of the communal Government Order. The Government has also to come forward and make material changes in the way in which this communal Government Order is worked. I hope, Sir, that the Government will give their best attention to this matter."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, the budget speech of the Hon. the Finance Member shows a realization of the miserable condition of the tax-payer, especially the land tax-payer, but at the same time it betrays his helplessness to rescue the tax-payer, and to put his sympathy and knowledge into practice. Sir, he says that while the minor agricultural commodities like coconut-oil, copra, cotton and groundnut have risen in price, that of the main produce, the rice, has not risen; rather it has risen and fallen. He realizes that the agriculturist has not recovered to a sufficient extent to withdraw the concession given to him by the Government. At the same time he thinks he has some reason to believe that the cost of cultivation gradually adjusts itself to the altered conditions. He feels ' to add to our trouble ' that the monsoons, both south-west and north-east, have failed and that the districts of Anantapur, Bellary and some parts of Cuddapah and Kurnool were chiefly affected. Of course he ordered relief in those places; he also granted kist remission and suspension on a large scale in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Chittoor, Nellore, North Arcot, Ramnad and Coimbatore, etc., but I do not know why he has overlooked the Chingleput district in this respect. I may say, Sir, that normally in the Chingleput district, as I detailed before, the cost of cultivation per acre goes up to Rs. 37 whereas the yield comes to only Rs. 33. Even to pay his kist, the cultivator has to borrow. Is it because of the neglect of the executive there who do not investigate into things and report to the Hon. the Finance Member or the Revenue Member that this district has been ignored? This year, in that district monsoon has failed and people are suffering. They pawned their jewels, mortgaged their lands; the selling values of their lands are reduced. That is the real condition of the people in the Chingleput district. Will the Hon. the Revenue Member and the Hon. the Finance Member investigate into the state of affairs there? Most probably, because the Chingleput district is normally suffering, they think that Chingleput can be ignored. I request them to see that something is done for the Chingleput district. I have detailed the sympathy and knowledge of the Finance Member. I see also the helplessness of the Hon. the Finance Member. The Finance Member is to provide a certain expenditure, stereotyped expenditure and a red-tape expenditure, and he must have some income for this, even though it has to be got by squeezing the ryot out of existence. So, Sir, with all the

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difficulties which the cultivator is undergoing, he must have that income for his expenditure. Most probably, he orders the Revenue Member to see that that income is squeezed out of the ryot. Some permanent thing should be settled once for all. There is no use of the members of the opposition, the members of all parties representing the people in the districts bringing forward a resolution; whether it is carried by a majority or lost by the casting vote of the President, it does not matter; everything goes on as it is. So, I request the Government to seriously consider the state of affairs and constitute a committee
·15 p.m. to go into this matter. I would request the Hon. the Finance Member to take the matter seriously and form a committee consisting of experts like himself, the Hon. the Revenue Member, the Hon. the Chief Minister who has shown himself to be a democrat of democrats as is evidenced by his attitude in regard to the passing of the Estates Land (Amendment) Act and Dr. Subbarayan, the Leader of the Opposition. Let the committee sit and reduce the tax to such an extent as to allow the cultivator to get one-third of the gross income to maintain himself and his family. Then when the prices show a tendency to fall, they can follow the example of the Punjab. 'The amount of land revenue to be collected each year shall depend upon the level of agricultural prices during the previous year' and 'if the prices fall, proportionate reduction will be made in the land revenue demand; but in the event of a rise in prices, there will be no enhancement in the demand.' In Punjab, they are making attempts in this direction and it is up to our Presidency also to do it.

"Having a certain income by such permanent reductions, I am never in favour of retrenchment in establishments. I do not want even a single Government servant to be removed from service for even a day. I do not want that the non-Gazetted officers should be touched either with regard to the retrenchment or cutting of the salaries. The expenditure should be cut short according to the income to balance the budget. I want the axe should be applied to Gazetted officers and future entrants. We want Indianization to economise. What is the use of our having Indians on the same scale of pay as the Europeans? I consider that the highest pay that should be paid to an Indian should be fixed as from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000. If there is any necessity for having European element in our service, and I am convinced that there ought to be, we shall pay them the usual pay such as the salary of the appointment with some compensatory allowances to level it up to the present pay. Sir, all these subjects will form the basis for the discussion of the committee I have referred to above. I want the committee to be formed to-day.

"Sir, coming to the question of unemployment, it is well known that every country in the world is tackling this problem. In America, to-day four million unemployed were relieved. In England, the unemployed get so much of assistance in the shape of doles, unemployment insurance, national health insurance, old age pensions, pensions granted to orphans and widows pensions. But in our country none exist

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Where are we to lay our complaint about this state of affairs? To the Cabinet Members? They are our own people and the two Europeans on the body have always been identifying themselves with us in our aspirations, seasoned civilians as they are. On account of unemployment we have been hearing stories of starvation and death and committing suicides and even of murders and the killing of one's nearest and dearest ones. That is the condition of the unemployed in the Presidency. The Government ought to come to the rescue of these people. In my opinion one thousand rupees shall be the highest pay of all Indians except most probably the present Ministers. They should have their pay equal to the Executive Members. They may continue to draw the present rate; but in the new Councils we are going to get we should lay down this rule. I think that the people affected by this rule will have no cause for complaint, for, in their service to the motherland, they should accept what is possible for the Government to pay them and they should take it that they are doing a service to the country as they do in all civilized countries.

"Recently, a suggestion was made in the columns of a newspaper that people who have put in a service of 25 years and over should be compulsorily made to retire and that young men ought to be recruited in their places. Certainly, Government can effect much economy in that way. Sir, 115 medical graduates have passed out of the Andhra University and not one of them is employed. If this rule is applied to the Medical Department, so many people with ripe experience of 20 and 25 years will be available for the service of humanity. The retired medical men may set up practice and may serve a life of usefulness to the country. If such a rule were enforced, not only these 115 medical graduates and the medical graduates of the Madras University but also the graduates of our University will be able to find some employment. I do not see why so much of intelligence should be wasted in our country. Intelligence is an asset to our country, whether it be of medical graduates or graduates in arts or in law.

"Sir, then there is the question of industrial and agricultural unemployment. In England they say that they are spending about 60 crores of rupees towards unemployment. So long they were giving doles only to industrial unemployed; now I learn they are giving doles even to agricultural unemployed. As I have said, there are so many kinds of relief to the unemployed in other countries. But in our country, we are left to ourselves, to die or live. In our neighbouring State of Hyderabad we are having a system of family pensions to the wives and children of officers if they die in harness. Why should not we copy the example of that State? I think a similar provision exists in Mysore also. I refer to this in passing. We see, Sir, that the production on land is only 50 per cent of what it was about 20 or 30 years ago, because (1) fertility of the soil is reduced and (2) our rivers are silted up so much so that the usual water flowing through them inundates surrounding fields and ruins the crops. The rest of the water wastes itself into the sea. I think it is Col. Cooke who proposed that

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all the waters of our presidency should be conserved, by constructing a net work of canals by connecting rivers to rivers and canals to canals and digging channels from the rivers to lead to tanks. The Hon. the Finance Member has no doubt said that money has been set apart for renewing old channels and tanks. This will not do. Why not dig up new channels and tanks and start new projects so that there will be a net work of irrigation channels ready to receive Sangameswaram project. Even this repairing of channels and tanks, they intend to take up after the suggestion of Economic Conference held at Delhi. They suggested that this is the best time to take up large schemes as money is cheap. This will relieve unemployment both skilled and unskilled. Only one point more, Sir. I shall read an extract from the budget presented by President Roosevelt and commentaries thereon, to show what happens in other countries in regard to the relief of the unemployed; President Roosevelt said:

'I am submitting to the Congress a budget which balances except for expenditure to give work to the unemployed. Such deficit as occurs will be due solely to this cause and it may be expected to decline as rapidly as private industry is able to re-employ those who are now out of work.'

"The commentators draw from this statement certain basic principles which it may be useful to note.

"It is the duty of the Government to provide the unemployed with the opportunity to work. They recognize the right of every man to work. Later down, in the letter, there is the following passage:—

'In all numerous promises:' (Made by the President Roosevelt) 'of sound Governmental economy there appears the definite notice that all considerations will give way, in every instance, to provisions for caring for those who might be penniless through no fault of their own.'

"Sir, does this state of affairs obtain here?

"Sir, with regard to the repayment of loans, I have just to say a word or two. The Government of India refused the premature repayment of loans by this Government, with the result that these are now invested on productive enterprises. I thank the Government of India. They want with their loans that large schemes should be taken up. To take loans and try to pay them back as early as possible, without caring for urgent necessities of the province is not the right policy.

"I am very sorry that we shall miss the Hon. the Finance Member very much. He is one of those civilians who has given the best part of their lives to our country. It is the characteristic of an Indian Civil Service Member that even if he is appointed to a post for a day he thinks he is to be permanently there and gives his best to it. Not only that, he is the member of a family of distinguished I.C.S. officers who have spent the best part of their lives in the service of our country. I wish him and Lady Stokes long life, health, wealth and prosperity." (Cheers.)

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* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise with mixed feelings of pleasure and regret to offer my congratulations and thanks for the last time to the Hon. Finance Member for the very able and lucid budget he presented to this Council. Though of a somewhat severe and reserved exterior, he has in him depths of human sympathy, humour, and sincerity, which I am sure this House had long ago detected and given him credit for. Whatever may be the difference of opinion with regard to his principle of budgeting, I am sure no one has ever doubted either the sincerity of his convictions, or his abiding interest in the welfare of the people of this country. Sir, there is a strong division of opinion with regard what is sound budgeting: whether the principles of domestic economy guiding the manager of a family are applicable to the financial arrangements of a Government is a debatable point. Some sections in this House want the Government to increase the debt so as to enable them to launch out on enterprises calculated to advance the industrial and economic prosperity of this Province, enterprises which must be characterized as speculative, the ultimate result of which may be disappointing; and there are others who believe in the reduction of the incidents of debt in the first instance. Whatever may be the relative merits of these contending opinions, I am sure that those who will come to occupy the Treasury Bench immediately after the next election under the new dispensation of full Provincial Autonomy will have abundant reason to be grateful to Sir Hopetoun, for having given them the wherewithal to enable them to reconcile to some extent at least the financial implications of the extravagant election pledges they would have had made with the simple rules of arithmetic. Total prohibition, extensive compulsory elementary education, drastic reduction of taxes, and if I may throw in old age pensions and unemployment insurance are bound to be some of the items which will top the catalogue of the pledges of the next elections, items which are equally bound to upset all the rules of arithmetic. Then those on the Treasury Bench though not in public, at least in their hearts will express their gratitude to Sir Hopetoun, who through a period of one precedented depression and difficulty had stuck to his principles and with a commendable foresight through opposition and abuse leaves behind him to the succeeding Government a legacy of ease. On this occasion I wish to associate myself with the compliments which Mr. Langley paid to the Hon. Finance Member, compliments coming from one representing the group of businessmen will be appreciated both by the member and this House.

" Yesterday the hon. Member from Coimbatore initiating this discussion had taken the Finance Member to task for not having provided for the development, industrial and other voice of this Province. I do not know, Sir, whether there were any proposals from departments concerned which the Finance Member had turned down; my information is there were none.

" During the precious period of ten minutes which you Mr. President has allotted to members, I cannot touch upon all the important questions,

but there is one matter which in my opinion deserves some of this precious ten minutes. Sir, it is and ought to be the primary concern of all civilized Governments to promote the comfort and happiness of its subjects, and in the case of the old, the infirm and destitute the duty of the Government becomes all the more imperative. I am therefore sorry to find the Government indifferent to the resolution sponsored by the benevolent Maharaja Sahib of Pittapuram in this House and approved by it as long ago 1930 for the appointment of a committee to devise ways and means for affording relief and protection to the old, infirm and destitute who for no fault of their own have been consigned to starvation and to suffering. It may be that the Government are not in a position to implement the recommendations of such a committee, but I submit that such a committee is necessary and its recommendations will be very useful in giving the proper directions to private munificence and generosity, which at the present moment is expressing itself in wasteful and not very useful channels. I therefore hope, Sir, that the Government will come forward at least with a supplementary demand for the small sum of Rs. 6,000 needed for.

" Mr. President, the Hon. Home Member has begun his career under good auspices and has already gained some gratitude from the people by starting the investigation into the family budget of the workers. He has a good and sympathetic heart and I hope he will very soon earn the complete measure of gratitude of the people by taking early steps to give effect to protective and relief measures to the workers so as to advance their happiness and prosperity. Mr. Langley has rightly laid stress upon the development of electricity and paid a deserving compliment to Major Howard with which I readily and heartily associate myself and I feel sure that in the hands of our popular Law Member, Sir K. V. Reddi, electricity will get the necessary impetus and the remote villages of this Province will get the benefit of not only the physical light but also the light of culture and civilization which electricity had invariably taken along with it. Mr. President, there is another question raised by Mr. Langley to which I would like on this occasion to refer, and that is the revision of the land revenue policy. While endorsing his observations I would strongly appeal to the Government to take early steps in this direction to set at rest once for all the public agitation on this question.

" Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member referred to the land mortgage bank. However much I may try I have not been able to share the optimism with regard to this institution. Whatever may be the measure of relief it is calculated to bring to the agriculturalists, in view of the fact that the Government stand committed to guarantee the huge sum of 50 lakhs of rupees, I think that, the Government should have adequate control over the operations of this bank. I am glad Sir Hopetoun had referred to this aspect and rightly so of the bank. I would suggest, Sir, that the present arrangements of control are not adequate, and that nothing short of placing the executive of the bank

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under the direct control and supervision of the Government will be either adequate or effective, and I hope the Government will take early steps to get control of the executive."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" I must thank the Hon. the Finance Member for having accepted the policy which has been mentioned by us times out of number on the floor of this House, namely, with regard to the development of the agricultural schemes in this Presidency. In paragraph 21 of his report he has told us that he got an inspiration from the Economic Committee and from the Government of India and therefore he wants to use more funds for the sake of improving the agricultural resources. That is certainly a happy feature and I am more thankful to him for having initiated a policy not only on behalf of himself but on behalf of Government which he represents in this Council. But I feel a bit chilled because no provision has been made in the present Budget. He gives two reasons for that. He says he has appointed a special officer for drawing up programmes, plans and estimates so that he may start the work later on. He wants instructions from the Government of India for diverting capital monies for improving the agricultural resources. These two reasons do not hold good so far as I understand. He requires only five lakhs for works in the first year. I would point out that five lakhs can easily be had from what I call illegitimate revenues of the Government, the miscellaneous revenues which the Government gets from the ryots and which the Government are not normally entitled to. Another item is the pound revenue which also they are not entitled to. Miscellaneous revenues are due to irregular cultivation or unauthorized cultivation and encroachments which Government has no right to expect from any law-abiding ryot. For the benefit of the ryot population they are made to pay penalties and the Government has no moral right to claim these as part of the general funds. Similarly with regard to the pound fees. In the matter of cattle trespass, it is the individual that suffers. Therefore the income from the pounds and the miscellaneous incomes must be earmarked for rural uplift and rural development and in this instance I would say for the purpose of developing the agricultural resources of the country. I find that the miscellaneous revenues come to 4·10 lakhs and the pounds revenue to 3·40 lakhs. So I have presented 7½ lakhs to the Hon. the Finance Member if he is seriously inclined to use that money for improving the irrigation sources, whereas he wants only five lakhs for the first year. Apart from that, there is no need to wait for the report of the Special Officer because I find in answer to my question No. 644, it has been said that there are about 760 items of irrigation works which are ready with plans and estimates and in respect of which work can be set on foot at once. It is therefore needless to wait for fresh plans and estimates. If the Government seriously intends to start the works, I will submit there is no use in his waiting for the report of the Special Officer, because we do not know when that report would be ready and we do not know what other demands would be coming in, for which the resources must be made available. Apart

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from this, the policy of procrastination, I would appeal to the Hon. the Finance Member before he lays down the reins of office to see and try to provide the 5 lakhs for purposes which have been adumbrated in paragraph 21 of his speech and recommend that the works may be commenced. That would be the first piece of evidence that Government is sincere about this change in policy and the sooner it is put into practice the better it is for the Government and the people. The people certainly gain very much and the Government also gain very much directly and indirectly because the uplift of the village people is a gain to the Government. Then, Sir, there is another point which I would refer to, with respect, to the consideration of the Hon. the Revenue Member and that is with regard to the famine administration. Time and again I have been hearing that Government have been very partial to Anantapur district. No doubt we are very grateful to the Hon. the Revenue Member and the Hon. the Finance Member for the works of relief that they have started in famine areas. As the London correspondent of the *Hindu* has said, the tax-payers of England are not grateful to Government for the remissions granted in the past but are grateful only for future benefits. The Indian tax-payer is not of a different stuff. While thanking the Government for what they have done, I would insist on Government going a bit further. For instance I would refer to one latest incident. I refer to the answer given to-day on the floor of the House in reply to a question about fodder being supplied in the famine areas. I know as a matter of fact that the amount of fodder supplied per week per ryot is one hundredweight. That is barely enough for one head of cattle. According to statistics an average ryot has three pairs of plough bulls. When it is so, he must have he-buffaloes and milch cows. Therefore one may safely put it at eight heads of cattle being the average for each ryot. When famine is raging high, what is the measure taken? Every mother of a child is anxious about the milk and much more so will the children be anxious for milk. If they deprive them of milk and if the milch cattle die of starvation how are they to get on? How can children live without milk? How can public health and sanitation be preserved without milk? Where is the possibility of having cattle for the next agricultural season? They may say take loans and buy cattle. It is impossible to purchase three or four pairs for the next season. Wherever the ryot goes he cannot command credit. With regard to the Government loans as a matter of practice they are certainly denied. Therefore it is not real relief. So let him maintain the cattle and the milch cow. Let them not be under-nourished and die of starvation. This appeal, I make to the Hon. the Revenue Member. I hope he would consider this carefully with sympathy and do all that is humanly possible to save children, milch cattle and ploughing animals by seeing
2-45 that adequate fodder supplies are directed. I was told that the Col-
p.m. lector was given discretion in regulating rations of fodder. But I have heard that the Collector has no hand in the matter at all. Of course, I speak subject to correction. It appears that the Government or the Board of Revenue has given instruction to the Collector that he ought

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not to disburse more than one hundredweight of grass to a man per week and that he is confined only to provide for ploughing bulls and not even to ploughing buffaloes, nor to milch cattle. That is the sort of rigour imposed upon the Collector, who in the ordinary course must have discretion to act according to the circumstances. But his hands are tied by the Government or by somebody whoever that may be. It is a matter which I humbly request the Government to reconsider with a view to giving the ryot the necessary quantity of fodder for the up-keep of his cattle. Sir, it has been said that the Government has been doing everything that is possible to relieve the ryot. I have given instances to show that the Government has not done all that is desirable and necessary to be done, in the interests of famine-stricken people. It is usual for the Government to say that they have no funds and that they have so many other commitments. But I would submit that emergencies and special conditions require drastic steps to be taken, and unless Government do so, it would not be entitled to the gratitude of the ryots who are in their difficulties. I hope the Hon. Member in charge will give his best consideration to the matter.

"One word with regard to the Law Department, that is, the administration of justice. The batta given to a juror or assessor who has to attend the criminal court is a mere pittance, which is much less than what a witness coming to a munsif's court is paid. I do not know how the Government expects the juror to maintain the level of his dignity with a batta of five annas a day, while it costs him at least 12 annas per day for two meals in a town. It is not for the Government to say that the juror or assessor has not rebelled against it. However, we as Members of this House feel bound to say that whether the jurors and assessors are in a position to revolt or not, it is necessary that the juror must be paid something more than 5 annas a day to make himself feel comfortable and to enable him to take his meals in a hotel. The Government need not wait for a rebellion to come from them.

"Another point I would mention is this. From the note of the Secretary to the Finance Department, I see a cause mentioned for the fall in revenues under Civil Justice, and that it is due to the general depression and the consequent non-filing of suits. I would submit that there are so many other reasons for this. For instance, the moment the plaintiff goes to the court, the defendant is ready with an insolvency petition, and he puts in a number of bogus debts; if his debts are really for Rs. 10,000, he shows them as Rs. 50,000. This leads people to doubt whether they can get justice in a lawful and righteous way. If the revenues are falling short on the civil side, it is because of the insolvency law, which as it is administered at present, requires drastic reformation, so that the creditors might be safeguarded from the fraudulent practices of debtors.

"I would submit, Sir, in this connexion that the gains made by the Government are Rs. 147·78 lakhs under Stamps (page 23 of the Finance

Secretary's Memorandum) and under Court Fees Rs. 1·43 lakhs (page 29 *ibid*), whereas the expenditure for administration of justice including Jails and Convict Settlements is Rs. 116·2 lakhs which includes cost of buildings also. That clearly shows that the Government is making a very large profit on the civil side. Therefore, I would submit the necessity for reducing at least the court-fees payable on money suits. This action the Government can take *suo motu*. I may say that they can try an experiment like the railway companies, to see whether by reducing the rates there is more institution of suits and more revenue coming in into the coffers of the Government. I would suggest to the Government to try the experiment in respect of court-fees and watch the results. I want to raise some more points but my time is up, and I shall, therefore, take some other opportunity."

Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar then spoke in Tamil.

p.m. Mr. Daniel Thomas.—" At the outset of my speech I would add my humble voice to the chorus of praise and congratulations that have been given to the Hon. the Finance Member. The period of his office has synchronized with a period of special difficulty and depression, and in administering the financial affairs of this province during this period of difficulty the Finance Member has shown great ability and tact. It may be that the elected representatives of this House as well as others outside do not see eye to eye with him in the policy that he pursued in the matter of financial administration. Carefulness and economy are the necessary watchwords of any financial administrator, but we who represent the people of the province will look at matters from another angle. We believe in this time of difficulty and distress mere carefulness will not help. These are times when we have to exercise a certain amount of courage and daring, when we have to adopt and carry out far-reaching schemes which will really add to the benefit of the people of this province. That during the budget discussion of this year, the condition of the ryot, the distress and difficulties he is faced with, have raised an amount of attention and thought and consideration never before exhibited in the debates of this House, is a good and desirable sign. It shows that the Government have been realizing along with the hon. Members of this House that the prosperity and the well-being of the province are indissolubly bound up with the well-being and prosperity of the ordinary persons. I must submit, Sir, that the condition of the ryot at the present time is such as to call for most serious searchings of heart; prices have phenomenally gone down, rains are failing and there is no near prospect of the prices of commodities in this province resuming anything like the level that prevailed some years back. When we look ahead, when we cast our eyes forward and try to peer into the future and judge what will be the condition of the ryot in the coming years, I must say we must quake with fear and apprehension. We see no near prospect of the condition of the ryot being materially improved or placed on anything like a footing which it had some years ago. Under these conditions, I believe it is the duty of the Government and the duty of all public workers

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in this province to consider and devise ways and means by which some measures can be adopted, some schemes may be carried out, which would place the ryot in a better position than the prospects indicate that position to be. Generally, I may mention three prominent needs of the ryots of the present day. In the first place, taking into consideration the uncertainty of the seasons, the failure of rainfall, there is more and more necessity for the Government to carry on large irrigation schemes which will enable the ryot to be independent of the fluctuations of seasonal conditions. Though, Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member has not been in a position to give us any substantial relief in this direction, he has at least pointed out a ray of hope for development on the lines suggested. As pointed out by my friend Mr. Rameswara Rao, in paragraph 21 of the Budget speech, the Hon. the Finance Member has referred to the necessity of taking up large capital works for the purpose of conserving and improving the irrigation facilities of our province. He says 'Apart from the question of roads, it has appeared to the Government that capital expenditure might for the same reason be advantageously applied to a more extensive programme of irrigation, tank and channel improvement, reconstruction or repair, especially having regard to the very large numbers of these irrigation works which exist in this Presidency.'

"Sir, every district of this province has got various irrigation schemes which, by a judicious investment of capital, can be improved and conserved as far as humanly possible to ensure a proper harvest to the peasantry of this province. In my own district of Tinnevelly, I may mention the Papanasam scheme has been engaging the attention of the Government for years past. It has undergone various fluctuations and at times it appeared as though Government had taken it up in right earnest; at other times it appeared to be in suspended animation, and recently there seemed to be some revival of that animation. I hope, Sir, that this scheme which I submit is a necessary scheme for the prosperity of the peasantry of Tinnevelly would be taken up in right earnest and carried to completion, in which case the whole ayacut under the Tambraparni river would be placed beyond the fluctuations and uncertainties of seasonal conditions. We have realized this year the wisdom of the Government in launching the Mettur scheme, which this year has ensured to the Tanjore district a harvest which would never have been the case otherwise. But for the providential appearance of rain at the end of January, we would have been in a miserable position. In spite of that in various other parts of the district, the paddy crop has failed, and if such a scheme as the Papanasam scheme could be taken up and carried, such a contingency would be avoided.

"Then again, Sir, the next condition which is necessary for the purpose of bettering the position of the ryot is this—to make agriculture a paying proposition. Prices of paddy have gone considerably down, and though recently there was some slight rise, after all it has been

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uncertain and unsteady. The other thing which the Government may do for the purpose of ensuring a better return to the ryot in the matter of cultivation, is that the Agricultural Department might take more pains for the purpose of enabling the ryots to take to cultivation of a more profitable crop than paddy. It has been suggested on the floor of this House that sugarcane cultivation is likely to give the ryot greater yield than paddy and enable the ryot to have the necessary facilities for the purpose of cultivating more commercially valuable crops. In that matter, the Agricultural Department may give greater help to the ordinary ryot. No doubt, Sir, the department has been doing useful work for the last several years but the net results of the labours of the department have not reached the masses. It may be in certain places they have experimental farms, it may be in certain places they are carrying on researches, but the value of such things has not reached the masses.

" Then, Sir, the ryot over half the portion of the year has no work and consequently has no income. For the purpose of supplementing the purely agricultural income, it is necessary that some sort of cottage industry should be provided. It has been said that handloom weaving is one of the staple cottage industries of our province. In this connexion I wish to refer to the rather short-sighted policy of the Government.

5 " Some time back, in connexion with a swadeshi exhibition at Tinnevelly, the Tinnevelly District Board contributed a small sum of Rs. 200 as a sort of help for the exhibition. The Government in its wisdom, dictated by what I do not know, thought it fit to disallow that grant and cancel the allotment proposed to be given towards that exhibition. Sir, if handloom weaving is to be the staple cottage industry of our Province, and if that is to be encouraged in every way, I do not see what justification there was for the Government for preventing not only the help that was sought to be given for carrying on swadeshi propaganda but also for standing in the way of the local boards making contributions of this kind. I believe that in these matters the Government should follow a wiser and more statesmanlike policy and do everything in its power not only through its agency but also through the agency of the local boards to carry on and spread the swadeshi propaganda in our Province. I believe that these matters will engage more and more the attention of the Government.

" I believe the Hon. the Finance Member has not done anything in his regime for the purpose of improving the irrigation facilities of this Province. His successor therefore will be in a happier position to carry out some of the schemes which will enure to the benefit of the ryots."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Mr. President, we are all sorry that the Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes would be laying down his office very shortly. As has been pointed by several speakers, he is the last of the great Nabobs who came to India to shake the pagoda tree."

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The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—" I protest, Sir; I have never shaken the pagoda tree." (Laughter.)

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Anyway, Sir, the pagoda tree has long ceased to exist, and therefore we need not worry ourselves in ascertaining whether Sir Hopetoun ever shook the pagoda tree. At any rate it must be said to his credit that during the period that he was the Finance Member of this Province he has successfully shaken the ryots of this Province to their very bones and has wrung out of them the last drop of their blood in order to enrich the exchequer of this Province. No doubt, Sir, in carrying on the financial administration of this Province he has not sought for popular applause, or, as he puts it, ' the unthinking applause ' of the populace of this Province. But one cannot, at the same time, fail to express the feeling that instead of taking a long view of things and exploring new fields both for the expansion of Governmental activities and for an increased revenue, he has chosen the much easier task of simply carrying on the administration, driving the same old plough along the same old furrow.

" Sir, taking the expenditure side of the Budget Estimates first, I find that the so-called beneficent activities of the Government have not *in any way expanded. In fact, if the amount of money spent* by the various departments are to be any indication at all, it is as clear as anything that the beneficent activities of the Government have been in very many respects even curtailed. Therefore it is no exaggeration if I should say that this Province is moving backwards instead of forwards. In all countries of the world, though they are as much affected by the economic depression as this Province, we find the expenditure side of their respective budgets mounting up year after year. But curiously enough, in this Province we find that the expenditure of the Government is going on decreasing. This is a phenomenon which cannot be explained. The reason why the expenditure side of the budgets of the Governments of the various countries of the world is going on increasing year after year, although they are passing through an unprecedented economic depression is the fact that it is a well understood economic principle that the surest and easiest way to get over an economic depression is to increase the activities of the Government by spending more money. But, Sir, as I said, this Government has been contracting its activities year after year. Compared to the year 1930–31, in every item of expenditure, on the so-called nation building departments, there has been a considerable decrease.

" While on this question of nation-building departments, Sir, one cannot but express the feeling that there has been some kind of what the Americans call log-rolling between the Ministry and the Hon. the Finance Member. The Ministry on its part has helped the Finance Member to collect his full revenue, to the last pie. The Finance Member has, as his part of the log-rolling doled out to the Ministers, a few rupees more than what they got during the last two or three years, for the administration of their respective departments in his endeavours to collect his revenues to the utmost.

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"Sir, I was saying how the beneficent activities of the Government have been curtailed. One would have at least expected the Hon. the Finance Member to have initiated new schemes of remunerative capital expenditure during this period of economic depression. Because, at such times, it is possible to raise loans at cheap rates of interest; and with that money carry out new schemes and thus to some extent solve the unemployment problem which is staring us in the face. The Government have not done any such thing. They could easily have raised loans and launched upon schemes of road development and canal digging.

"Mr. President, I will now take up Demand No. XXXI—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred. Under this head, I find that the allotment made for village communications and village sanitation, about which much was said in this House yesterday by the hon. Member Mr. Foulkes, is very meagre. I find that only Rs. 2½ lakhs has been provided for village communications. In the case of village sanitation also, the allotment is very meagre, it is only Rs. 2·15 lakhs. These are items of expenditure which are essential to the welfare of the agricultural population. And yet, instead of providing for an increase in these directions, there is actually a decrease in the provision made.

"No doubt it may be asked, 'if the activities of the Government are to be expanded, there must at the same time be an expansion in the revenues of this Province.' I admit it is a legitimate question for the Hon. the Finance Member to ask. But, I ask the Hon. the Finance Member what he has been doing during these 5 years he has been in charge of the finances of this Province to explore new sources of revenue. Instead of taking the trouble to explore new sources of revenue, and relieving the hardships experienced by the ryots under the existing system of land revenue, he has chosen the easier path, as I said, of collecting the same old revenues. One would have expected him to explore the possibility of levying some indirect taxes like the tax on tobacco and the tax on betel-nuts. I believe, Sir, it was in the year 1924–25 that a committee constituted by Government definitely made a recommendation to the Government to explore the possibility of levying a tax on tobacco and a tax on betel leaves and nuts. It was anticipated that a revenue of about 25 lakhs could easily be gathered by that means. But, I am sorry to state that the Hon. the Finance Member has not moved his little finger in that direction.

"The other source of revenue which the Hon. the Finance Member would have done well to explore is a tax on the unearned increments of the permanently settled landholders. My hon. Friend, Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar, speaking about this question, said that the plight of the owners of the permanently settled estates was very bad and that therefore the Government should not think of revising the permanent settlement. But, Sir, for his information, and for the information of the House, I should like to point out that the statistics published by the Government of Madras in their annual report on the land revenue administration of this Presidency has got a different

through that report from the year 1910 onwards they will find that the income derived by the zamindars from their estates has been steadily increasing. Whereas at the time of the permanent settlement, a zamindar, say, with a revenue of Rs. 300, was asked to pay Rs. 200 as peshkash and retain Rs. 100 for his own trouble, the income of that same zamindar has now doubled, if not more. One can point to instances where it has even trebled. Why should the holders of these permanently-settled estates be allowed to appropriate for themselves this unearned income which they have made and are still continuing to make without any trouble whatever? It is but legitimate that the Government should mulct them of a portion of that unearned increment and thereby increase the revenues of this Province. There is also another suggestion put forward by some; and that is to tax the agricultural income of the people. When I speak of agricultural income, I include in that class the income of not only the zamindars, but also of ryotwari landowners. I can never think of ryotwari being exempted from that tax. Ryotwari landholders making an income of over, say, Rs. 10,000, should be taxed.

"The Government could very well have explored the possibility of augmenting their revenues from these sources. But, during the period the Hon. the Finance Member has been in office he has, I submit, done nothing in this direction. He has on the other hand, blamed the hon. Members of this House for being irresponsible and asking for a revision of the present land revenue system, which admittedly is an unjust form of taxation.

"Lastly, Sir, I have got only one or two remarks to offer, and they relate to the policy of the Madras Government in meeting capital expenditure out of revenue balances. From the statement of the Hon. the Finance Member it is clear that between 1928 to 1936 we would have spent on capital works as much as Rs. 249 lakhs from out of our revenue balances.

"The Hon. the Finance Member suggests that it would be feasible 1-30 p.m.
to fund that amount. I ask why he has not taken the trouble of funding this amount and making it available for expanding the activities of the Government. If this is not the proper time to undertake that operations—when money could be got at very low rate of interest—I submit that we cannot have any better times. It would certainly not be a wise act of any future Government, when rates of interest would probably have gone up, to fund it at that period. I suggest to the Hon. the Finance Member that before he lays down his high office, to take steps to see that this amount is funded and that the same is made available for extending the activities of the Government."

The Council then adjourned for lunch.

(After Lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the previous speakers in offering my sincere congratulations to the Hon. the Finance

Member for the balanced budget that he has presented to this House. In spite of the prevailing financial strain and the unprecedented economic depression, he has succeeded in adjusting receipt with expenditure and has presented this House with a hopeful budget providing for almost all the items that the House has been demanding for some time past. The officers of the Finance Secretariat who have so ably seconded the efforts of the Hon. the Finance Member deserve also our sincere congratulations.

" Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member has struck the right note in suggesting that the exploration of fresh sources of revenue should no longer be deferred. There is the Finance Committee consisting of elected members of this House and also officers responsible for the administration of the several departments. It is up to this Committee to find out ways and means of enlarging the financial resources. The Committee zealously guards expenditure. It is therefore legitimately its duty to take steps for tapping fresh sources of revenue. It is now quite clear to the House from the speech of the Hon. the Finance Member and also from the Budget Memorandum accompanying the Civil Budget Estimate that it is no longer possible to look to normal sources of revenue for additional expenditure. Land revenue, as we all know, has received a rude shake. Grant of seasonal concessions has become an almost annual feature. Excise revenue has got its own ups and downs. Irrigation is very slow to respond. The hydro-electric scheme that has recently been brought into existence will take time to mature. It needs very little reflection to state that in order to meet the growing demands for expenditure and for the development of the nation-building departments, it is very necessary that fresh sources of revenue should be tapped. It is up to the Government and up to its financial advisers to so husband the resources of the State as to make funds available for the development of the nation-building departments.

" This Province as in the case of rest of India is rich in its minerals and material resources. It is also rich in its cheap labour which is its greatest economic asset. If these two available factors are to be fully exploited, it is very necessary that the industrial regeneration of the country should be immediately taken up in hand. We cannot say that industrial talent is wanting in this Province. Best brains are forthcoming. Men with technical qualifications and training are readily available. An oft repeated explanation is want of funds.

" There are at present unmistakable signs of a vast industrial awakening. I crave your indulgence, Sir, for a few minutes to refer to the report of the Industries department to show the industrial activities in progress. The report says:

'The year 1933–34 witnessed the highest number of new registrations recorded since the Indian Companies Act, came into force, namely, 167 (159 with and 8 without share capital) as against 152 in the previous year. The authorized capital of the 159 companies amounted to nearly Rs. 480 lakhs and the paid-up capital to Rs. 42·7 lakhs as against 235 lakhs and Rs. 19 lakhs in the year 1932–33. Of the new registrations, 64 companies were banking, loan or insurance companies, while 79 companies were trading and industrial concerns.

Three new cotton mills with an authorized capital of Rs. 22 lakhs were registered with their registered offices at Coimbatore. Five ginning factories were also registered at Coimbatore during the year, one with office at Bellary and the others at Madras, with an authorized and paid-up capital of Rs. 56 lakhs and 10.86 lakhs respectively. Three mining copmanies with an authorized capital of 110 lakhs of rupees and a paid-up capital of Rs. 42,866 were also registered, one for the purpose of mining gold in the Western Ghats, one for dealing in petroleum, etc., and the third for general mining. Four electric supply corporations with an authorized capital of Rs. 28,00,000 and a paid-up capital of Rs. 3,02,405 were registered. One of the most noteworthy registrations of the year was that of the Indian Steel Rolling Mills, Ltd., formed with an authorized capital of Rs. 10,00,000 to erect a rolling mill at Negapatam for the manufacture of steel sections, i.e., rounds, squares, flats, etc. The whole of the buildings and sheds of the old South Indian Railway Workshops at Negapatam have been acquired and will be adapted to suit the requirements of the rolling mill layout whilst the machinery and plant have been ordered from England.'

Sir, these are sure signs of industrial awakening and it behoves the Education Minister to take the time by the forelook and to get up a progressive programme of industrial development. Mysore is forcing ahead with its iron and metal works, cotton and woollen mills, manufacture of silk fabrics, paints, soaps and perfumery, toilet requirements, sandal-wood oil and a host of other materials. Japan, as we all know, is dumping articles of clothing, hosiery, toys of all kinds, glassware, writing materials and a host of other materials, with bewildering rapidity and at astonishing prices. Fancy, Sir, our getting a pair of socks in the open market for 1 anna, a pencil for 1 pie and a fountain pen for As. 1–6 with a compass at the top. If Japan could dump down articles of that kind, one wonders, Sir, when the time will come for this Province which, as I have already said, is so rich in its potentialities, to come up to the standard of Japan? It is almost criminal negligence to sit and watch with complacence when the neighbouring States and foreign countries are capturing the local markets, while local industries are languishing for want of systematic exploitation. Waut of capital and want of enterprise have been the greatest handicaps in the past, but luckily, Sir, these are gradually forthcoming. Government can step in and stabilize these indigenous attempts in more ways than one. In the direction of co-operation, as the House is already aware, Government have stepped in with a guarantee of 50 lakhs of rupees in the working of the Land Mortgage Bank and have thus afforded relief to the agriculturists in a very considerable measure. I believe similar assistance could be accorded to industrial development. By means of liberal subscriptions to share capital, Government can give this much desired stimulus to industrial schemes. There is also the scheme of subventions. The Government of India have led the way in granting subventions for certain industries. Government of India have undertaken to distribute 5 lakhs of rupees a year for the development of marketing facilities in respect of hand-woven goods and a lakh of rupees for the development of sericulture in India. These sums are being distributed to the several provinces. This Government can also adopt similar methods for the development of the existing industrial concerns as well as new or nascent industries.

"There is also the scheme of industrial, technical and commercial education. Something is being done in that direction, but a great deal remains to be done. As the Report of the Industries department

shows the training given by industrial schools and aided institutions is confined to metal and woodwork and very elementary training so far as mechanical and electrical engineering is concerned. We require more specialized training to meet larger developments and it is up to the departmental head to apply his mind to this question.

2-45 p.m. "There are various schemes of cottage industries with regard to which several reports have been written. There was a special committee which went into the question of the various schemes for the development of cottage industries and it places its reports before the Government. Unfortunately on account of financial stringency, these schemes could not be taken up. Sir, development of cottage industries has been the cry throughout the country at present. Unemployment among the educated classes is more dangerous than unemployment among the uneducated; uneducated people can easily find means of earning their livelihood; but the educated unemployed fight shy of manual labour and task of an inferior quality. Naturally therefore it is dangerous to leave the educated unemployed idle. The development of cottage industries, turning the industrial potentialities to good account is very urgently called for. I hope, Sir, that in view of these considerations the Government and its financial advisers would put their heads together and find out ways and means not only to balance the budget but also to secure adequate funds to develop the industrial resources to the best advantage of Government and the country."

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—"Mr. President, Sir, after all the encomiums and congratulations that have been showered from all parts of the House on the Hon. the Finance Member, I think I need not add anything more. Though the Hon. the Finance Member has been very careful, sincere and assiduous in the discharge of his duties as a business man, I cannot congratulate him on the other members of the Cabinet, for the simple reason that they have not taken care to alleviate the sufferings of the masses. The Hon. the Finance Member knows that the population of the Presidency has risen from 42 millions to 50 millions during the last 14 years; statistics on this point have been furnished by the Hon. Member himself. Land revenue has increased and almost all items of revenues have increased right through. The population of this Presidency is practically maintained by agriculture and agriculture is the only source of income; practically 90 per cent of the population live by agriculture either as owners of land or as labourers in fields. The area under agriculture has not increased very much but the taxes on it have increased. It is not the case of the Government or of the people that productivity of the land has improved or that the yield has risen. There is the same yield with increased taxes for rising population. I do not know how the people of this Presidency can improve either industrially or morally or otherwise. So, it looks as if the Government are administering the Presidency as a business concern and not in the interests of the masses. Therefore, I say that I cannot congratulate either the Finance Member or the Cabinet for the surplus

me has been Director of Industries and he knows the difficulties and the troubles the Director of Industries feels in the discharge of his duties. But as an agriculturist, representing the agricultural classes, I want to explain to the Hon. the Revenue Member mainly upon the various difficulties which the agriculturist generally feels. Coming as I do from a district which is mainly an irrigated area, I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to note that he has not been able to discharge his duties towards the agriculturist. Of course several hon. Friends including my friend Mr. Langley have discussed the land revenue policy. I do not think it is necessary for me to refer to the policy in general. But what I seriously complain of is this. Most of the money the Government get, is admittedly out of land revenue and what is it that the Government do for the small agriculturist from whom the largest portion of the revenue is derived? I also say that a larger portion of land revenue comes out of the delta tracts.

" My chief concern now is to point out the difficulties of the delta ryots. I have been complaining in this Council and my predecessors who represented the delta districts have been complaining during the last quarter of a century that the Government are most negligent of the drainage. I have been repeatedly bringing to the notice of the Government that no steps are taken towards the improvement of drainage in the delta tracts and recently we had an interview with His Excellency the Governor when he visited our district. His Excellency has been pleased to tell us that steps are being taken, that estimates are ready and that drainage would be improved in the delta. He showed me a note from the Secretariat showing that there is an estimate sanctioned for the Gonteru drain in the Godavari Western delta. I am sorry to find that nothing is provided in the Budget for this item; that shows how promises are not always kept up. And so far as the Gonteru drain is concerned, from the year 1923 onwards I have been observing that the Hon. the Finance Member, or the Chief Engineer or whosoever is concerned, always promised that steps were being taken. I know that from the year 1909 the Engineering Department have been preparing estimates so far as the Gonteru and Nakkala drains in the Godavari Western delta are concerned. I know as a matter of fact that since the year 1909 only a sum of Rs. 9,000 has been spent; these drains are 30 to 40 miles long; they begin almost with the anicut and end in the sea, and no improvement has been made to them. Of course the stock argument has always been advanced that in the Godavari Western delta, a sum of Rs. 15 lakhs has been spent on the Yenamaderru drain. That drain affects only a taluk and a half. There are five taluks which are not at all affected by that drain. It is the duty of the Government to see that large portions of the district are improved at State cost.

" As regards improvements to the Godavari Western delta, I have been seeing that provision is being made every year for a propelling dredger for Rs. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs for the Godavari anicut. Last year, budget provision was made; they were not able to utilize the grant and it was

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withdrawn. There is provision made in the current year's Budget also. It has been the practice to provide for a propelling dredger for a number of years, but the provision is never utilized.

"Then, Sir, there is the question of the raising of the anicut shutters from 2 feet to 3 feet; this question was first raised in the Council in the year 1923 by me. The then Irrigation Member promised that steps would be taken; it is now 12 years and the same old stock argument comes in. In fact every time there is provision made for this purpose, the demand is Rs. 5½ lakhs; sometimes provision is made but no work is done. Even this year out of an estimate of Rs. 5½ lakhs, provision for Rs. 2½ lakhs has been made. So, I would request the Hon. the Member in charge of Irrigation to see that the work is expedited. I would like to draw his particular attention to this point, as he is fond of extending irrigation under the delta. It has been extended to a lakh of acres during the last ten years under the belief that higher shutters will be provided and so there will be more water. Though the shutters have not been raised, lands are brought under cultivation and more revenue is drawn. There is not sufficient supply of water and you know that the Board's Standing Orders do not provide for remission if there is a two-anna crop; people suffer and the Government get their dues at the rate of Rs. 6–4–0 per acre.

"There have been promises of remodelling the channels and the Hon. Member knows that a sum of Rs. 14 lakhs has been collected as *nazarana*. Steps are being taken to remodel the channels. What is the amount provided for remodelling the channels in the last year, in the current year and in the next year? It is only Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000. Is it at least the interest on the capital that has been taken by the Government? I submit it is not and I think the Government must be more forward in taking to it. Then there is always the trouble of maintenance and repairs. Silt clearance has been given up in the delta and very little provision is made for this purpose. A sum of Rs. 30 or Rs. 100 is given for this purpose and it goes to the pockets of the coolies or somebody else. No kind of improvement can be effected at a cost of Rs. 100. So, there should be a systematic policy of improving and maintaining channels, a policy of extension and improvement.

"Leaving that point, I come to the general question. My hon. Friend, Mr. Foulkes, has drawn the attention of the Government to the insanitary condition of the villages and it is my duty as representing the villagers, to point out that the Government do not at all care for the needs of the villages. The provision made for village communications and for village water-supply is hardly sufficient. Sir, the Government, the Hon. the Chief Minister and almost all the Members of the Cabinet have been saying that it is the policy of the Government to encourage village panchayats. I know that there are several thousands of village panchayats. What are the grants given to these village panchayats? The Hon. Minister admitted that no grants were

available and it was granted to the local bodies and not the village panchayats. In the current year the Inspector of Local Bodies has asked for grants to the village panchayats. I see from the Finance Committee's recommendations that the allotment asked for by the Inspector of Local Bodies has not been granted at all. There is a provision of 2 lakhs of rupees for water-supply and Rs. 2½ lakhs for village communications. I hope the Ministry will take care to see that all this money is given to the village panchayats. What I say is this; village panchayats have no source of revenue. Local bodies at least have some sources of revenue. If the villagers are prepared to meet half the cost, is it not fair that the Government should give grants to village panchayats as they are given to local bodies? I would urge upon the Government that all the money that it is possible to give should be given to the village panchayats. I also want that more grants should be given to the villages for village communications and water-supply. It is plain that all the money is derived from the land; you rob Peter and pay Paul; you take all the money from the villages and you provide lot of money for the urban water-supply. You do not give even half the amount to rural water-supply, as you give for urban water-supply. Is it a correct policy to be pursued by the Government to provide water for a few towns and leave altogether all the villages in the Presidency? So, I appeal to the Government once more to see that more money is given to the village panchayats.

"Then I would refer only to the Department of Education. The grant given to elementary school buildings is very little. I see that the existing commitments are very large and the grants are very small. I appeal to the Hon. the Minister to see that more grants are given for this purpose. The Government have been often proclaiming that better provision should be made for playgrounds for schools; but the provision made in the current year for this purpose is Rs. 2,900 for the whole Presidency. I wonder if the Hon. Minister is satisfied that he will be able to provide at least one playground for a single school in the Presidency. Is it the policy of the Government to proclaim that they are going to have more playgrounds and sanction half a pie for each school?"

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I should like to congratulate the Hon. the Finance Member on having presented to us a surplus Budget for the coming financial year. Of all the Finance Members of this province since 1920, his is the longest term; and in his term he has ably managed the finances of this province and those who come after him will call him the 'blessed.' The Madras province being an agricultural province, Government get the largest income from the land. All countries in the world agree that the ryot forms the backbone of the nation and his well-being is the well-being of the country. Besides the general economic depression, we see in one side of the province famine and in another side heavy floods. The ryots who always seek the protection of Government in times of necessity, asked for remission last year and got it. But on the whole, I must say that 3 P.M.

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the Government have not sufficiently helped the ryots. How is the ryot protected in our province? Import of rice has not been stopped; Government could not find a better market for the paddy we are producing and the ryots have not been taught to substitute any other crop for the paddy which is our staple crop. Liberal agricultural loans are not given to the ryots; no agricultural unions have been started. The ryot has not been able to balance his family budget either this year or last year. The ryot finds that nature herself is against him in the shape of famines, unseasonal rains, heavy floods, etc. He finds that the Government also are against him when they do not accede to his moderate request for remission. If the Government had provided in the past large amounts for industries, irrigation, education, medicine, public health, etc., the ryots did not grudge them so much as they do now. A friend of mine who is in the Nizam's Dominions met me the other day and told me that, as a ryot, he was better off in the Nizam's Dominions than here. If it is so, I fail to see the protection of our ryots in British India by the Government. Anything that affects the ryot will equally affect my people, whom I represent in this Council. My people used to live on cottage industries. Being unable to compete with British factories, they became farm labourers. The other day, my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj, opposed a proposal for remission on the ground that the community which he represents in the Council would not be helped, that is to say, that they won't get as much money as they would otherwise do, if the remission was granted. But he forgot that the people whom he represents here mostly depend on the ryots of the country. What affects the ryots will surely affect the depressed class people. So, if the ryots are helped by the British Government, the depressed classes also will be indirectly helped. Our condition is intimately connected with that of the ryots. We sincerely appeal to the Government to help the ryots in the departments I just now mentioned. We are not now being helped by the Government as much as we wish. Especially in the Labour department, money is not provided for sufficiently. The Hon. the Home Member who has just taken charge of the portfolio will, I think, try to get more funds for the Labour department and help us greatly in the future. As I said, the ryots should be helped, and along with them, the depressed classes also should be helped.

"One more observation I wish to make before I finish is this: the money provided for the Industries department is very limited. If the Government wish to help the people, especially those who have some liking to take to industries, Government will be well advised to find some more funds and start new industries, so that the people who have now no work to do may be employed in those industries and earn a good living.

"With these few remarks, Sir, I resume my seat."

* Mr. P. Ratnavelu Thevar:—"Sir, this will never do. The prestige of the Transferred departments is at the lowest ebb. The administration has evoked widespread ridicule and contempt.

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"In the Local Self-Government department, nothing is as it should be. During His Excellency's tour recently in the Andhra districts, he heard the loud voice of public dissatisfaction. It was remarked by him then that the department was in the transferred half and was administered by an Indian. His Excellency was right and we Indians have to confess to the charge. But on behalf of the electors, I must protest that the Government in the reserved half is responsible for keeping up the life of this Legislature and the Ministers by artificial respiration.

"Perhaps nowhere does this administration so much militate against accepted canons of public guardianship as in the appointment of commissioners to municipalities. The merits and demerits of the system at present, even if it were enforced everywhere and impartially, are beside the point now. The Minister for Local Self-Government wants perhaps as a sort of compensation, that the presidents of district boards and chairmen of municipalities should serve and bow down before him as he himself does before the reserved half. At present, the question is not whether the appointment of commissioners is right or wrong but whether it is proper to use it as a sword of Democles to enforce loyalty to the Minister. To refer to a concrete instance, is not Vizagapatam one among the biggest municipalities in the Presidency? Why is there no commissioner there?

"None here could be ignorant of the happenings at Trichinopoly. My challenge to the Chief Minister in my election manifesto still remains there. I assert here again on the floor of this House that the allegations on which the Trichinopoly Municipality was superseded are untrue. I know yea, I have the truth of the adage *magna est veritas et præva lebit.* 'Great is truth and it must prevail.' I challenge an open and impartial enquiry. I make bold, Sir, to say to the Chief Minister that if such an enquiry be held, it will be established beyond all doubt that the citizens of Trichinopoly have been deprived of their civic rights by fraudulent misrepresentations to His Excellency the Governor and on unfounded allegations.

"Referring to the now notorious renomination of Kumararaja Muthiah Chettiyar, as a councillor of the Madras Corporation, the Chief Minister admitted in one of his party meetings that he had gone out of the way in doing so in the interests of his party. The admission was included in the official version published in his party organ. He now chooses to deny it, and when the contradiction is pointed out, he puts forward the novel plea that statements at party meetings cannot be debated here as if truth were altogether irrelevant in this House. Surely, *ex ungue leonem* 'The lion may be known by his claws.' I shall not dilate on the morality of such acts, but simply call attention to the principle that a Minister utilizing his official capacity for party ends, does not further the progress of democracy or justice. I appeal through you, Sir, to the representative of the Crown to consider and decide whether a Minister who flagrantly and admittedly utilized his public position to further his party ends, can be allowed to continue in office.

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"Again, the administration of the Public Health department is woeful. The distribution of even the limited grant available to the local boards and the municipalities defy scrutiny on any rational or intelligent principle. If a priority list exists at all in some moth-eaten paper in the archives of some office, is it not more honoured in the breach than in the observance? I once again emphatically assert that favouritism plays a large part.

"Shall I call it an anomaly or an irony that the Minister is himself the Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Board of Public Health? The Board exists but in name. Will the Minister state how often the Board of Public Health met and what the nature of business transacted was? Can he say that the so-called Board has served the purpose for which it was constituted?

"A no less important feature of the administration is the lack of amenities to the agriculturists who form the largest portion of the population and who contribute the main part of the revenue of the province. What has he derived in return for his finding food for the province except being burdened with taxes out of proportion to his capacity or the prices prevailing? Has he not been bled for the convenience and luxury of others?

"I am painfully aware that mine here is a cry in the wilderness, that no conviction or tangible result can evolve from persons beholden for their continuance here not to any mandate from the electorates, but to successive Government orders administering artificial respiration to keep alive the last embers of their dying flame. Yet, as the only member legitimately elected to sit in this Council, I feel it my clear duty to point out that the Ministry has lost the confidence of the country, though it might command votes in a House thus sustained."

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is a matter for great satisfaction that the Hon. the Finance Member has been able to present to this House an estimate which is sound in itself. When I say 'sound' budget, I mean an equilibrium budget. He has also been able to satisfy the needs of the various departments.

"Sir, I do not like to travel the same grounds as some of my hon. Friends have already done, but I would like to analyse here the grants that are given to the Labour department for the amelioration of the depressed classes. Sir, during the current financial year, a provision was made of Rs. 12,05,400 under 'voted' and Rs. 1,200 under 'non-voted,' making a total of Rs. 12,06,600, but going through the estimates for 1935–36, I find it has been exceeded by Rs. 3,000. This amount of Rs. 3,000 is made up of increase in the salary for staff Rs. 1,700, rates and taxes Rs. 1,200 and contingencies Rs. 100. I do not find that any provision has been made for increased ameliorative work in the various districts. Before the Retrenchment Committee deliberated, 23 districts were under the control of the Labour department; but I find now that only 14 districts have labour officers. Taking into

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account the districts which are without a labour office, the money that is going to be spent in those districts will be of no use at all. As already pointed out by my hon. Friend, Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan, yesterday, the works that are entrusted to the lower subordinates of the Revenue Department cannot be counted as real work done in the interests of the depressed classes. For, there is the caste tyranny.

"Sir, coming to Demand No. XXVIII which caters to the educational needs of the depressed classes, I find that a provision has been made for Rs. 8,22,300 for the coming year as against a provision of Rs. 7,91,400 for the current year, which means an excess provision of about Rs. 30,900. Of this, going deeper, I find that Rs. 26,500 is set aside for increase in the salary of the staff and Rs. 700 has been set aside for grants-in-aid. So, going into the details of the new schemes that have been accepted by the Finance Committee and placed before this House, I find under the head 'Depressed Classes' only two items for boarding grants. Sir, at a time like this when the whole Province has been agitating for the amelioration of the depressed classes, I do not think that the provision that has been made is adequate in itself; nay, even 5 per cent of the depressed class population, I mean the student population, will not be served by the meagre provision made in the budget. 3-15 p.m.

"Sir, taking into consideration the education of the depressed classes, I am very sorry to say that our Minister has not done his task to improve the condition of these people. For instance, the half-fee concessions granted to the depressed classes have been suspended and only after agitation he has been able to keep the Government Order relating to this suspension in suspense and I do not know what is going to happen to it after 31st May 1935. I would like to have a reply from him on this question.

"Again, Sir, on the 11th December 1934, another Government Order No. 2535 was issued by the Education Department curtailing the facilities that have been offered to the children of ex-Army men. Sir, it is universally admitted that most of the Indians who went to the War were largely drawn from the members of the depressed classes and now it has come to them as a bolt from the blue when even these small facilities that have been afforded to the children of the ex-Army men have been taken away. I think there is a great deal of agitation from the ex-Army men over this Government Order and I would like the Hon. the Minister for Education reconsiders that Order and see that it is cancelled.

"Sir, I want to mention one other point. At a time like this when we are faced with the joint electorate in the new elections to come, there still remains in the various districts the caste tyranny. On the floor of this House I brought to the notice of the Government the apathy of the caste Hindus, especially in Ramnad, and I may say that it has not yet subsided. Even some two or three months back, all would have known from the newspapers that a hundred families

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of the depressed classes were converted to Christianity. What the *Padri* achieved by way of conversion to relieve the depressed classes from the tyranny of the caste Hindus, I fear the Government was not able to do. Not only that, Sir, even some two days back, I observed in one of the papers what kind of treatment was meted out to the depressed class man in Malabar. So also in Coimbatore. I am sure most of the Members may know the incident at Singanallur where again the caste people have been oppressing the depressed classes in a manner unworthy of their traditions. These are things which I am sure the Hon. the Home Member who has been a champion of the cause of the depressed classes from the very beginning, will look into and see what could be done in this matter.

"Now, Sir, coming to the services, as already pointed out by my hon. Friend, Rao Bahadur Srinivasan, the inclusion of the touchables with untouchables in the list of the depressed classes and others, I fear, will in due course take away what little privilege we could get from the hands of the Government in the matter of services. It is most important that the Services Commission has come as a white elephant before this country. Unless amends are made, I fear, it will be necessary for this group also to vote against the existence of the Services Commission.

"The Department of Labour has been doing something for the depressed classes; but along with them are also included the hill tribes. The deputation that waited on the Hon. the Home Member recently, pointed out the difficulties of the hill tribes. Apart from what they are obtaining from the Labour department, the real facilities that are afforded to them by the Forest department are so little that their very existence is at stake. I am sure the Hon. the Law Member who is in charge of Forests will see that some little mercies are shown to these people.

"Coming to the excise policy of the Government, I fear, what little has been done, does not meet the wishes of the people. In portions where partial prohibition has been introduced, I find that due to want of supervision the very experiment has failed. Sir, at one time we were pleading in this House that possession must be made penal and the Government have not heeded to that request, and from the reports I find that that experiment has failed. I would like the Hon. the Minister for Excise to tell us what the real reasons are for this failure and whether he will do something better to show that the policy that has been adumbrated by this Government and accepted by this House, viz., that total prohibition in twenty years will be achieved is carried out. Some of the Members of the Opposition have been telling that Government control over the sale of liquor will be the best method. I also think so. If Government is to make a real test in the matter of helping the people, I think something in that direction must be expected.

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"As regards the co-operative department, I know, Sir, the Hon. the Development Minister is a man really interested in the welfare of the depressed classes, but the apathy of some of the important officers of the department is what is in the mind of our people. Sir, in the City of Madras, several deputations waited on the Hon. the Minister and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for the registration of the Depressed Class Co-operative Federation of Societies. I do not know, Sir, for what reasons that society could not be registered; and no valid reason has yet been given. I would, therefore, request the Hon. the Minister to examine the question once and for all and to make a statement as to what makes him not to have that society registered.

"Then, Sir, as regards the agricultural policy adopted by the Government, I think, what they have done in the Nilgiris in order to make better facilities for marketing is a welcome thing. But, when the Marketing Officer came to the Nilgiris recently, he convened a meeting of some of the representatives of the co-operative societies, leaving out the individuals, who are interested in the agricultural needs of the district. The Government have come forward to afford facilities only to the co-operative bodies and not to the individuals. I do not know where manure sellers can come in a meeting where there are no agriculturists. Of course we are thankful to the Hon. Minister for getting a Marketing Officer, but if he goes to the agriculturists of the district, makes enquiries and supplies them manure, I think, it will go a long way to help them."

Mr. P. V. Rajagopal Pillai:—"Mr. President, Sir, as the preparation of a provincial Budget involves laborious task and anxiety I should compliment the Hon. the Finance Member and his staff for presenting the balanced budget which is now before us. As the Hon. Member will be shortly laying down his office, I wish him a long span of life combined with good health.

"Sir, coming now to our subject proper, I may say that I, as one of the representatives of the depressed classes, am chiefly concerned with that portion of the Budget relating to demands Nos. XXVII and XXVIII. As, usually, little or no time is left for discussion when these demands are reached, I take this opportunity to say a few words about the needs of the depressed classes. Sir, it is a recognized fact that it is the duty of all civilized Governments to remove mass illiteracy. On a perusal of the Administration Reports of the Labour department for the years 1930–31 and 1933–34, it will be observed that at the end of 1930–31, there were 1,784 schools with a strength of 63,604 children, whereas at the end of 1933–34, there were 981 schools with a strength of 38,002 children, which goes to prove that sufficient number of schools do not exist for the education of the children of the depressed classes. As education is absolutely necessary for the uplift of these classes, I would urge upon Government the necessity of opening a number of

labour schools. It may not be out of place to mention here that even now there are some board and other schools which are inaccessible to depressed class children.

"The depressed classes are also suffering at present for want of house-sites, wells, burial grounds, etc. As the time at my disposal is too short, I shall not dilate on each item, but will content myself with asking Government to provide adequate funds for these purposes.

"As regards the services, Government have issued an order fixing the percentage, but this has become a dead letter, as on a reference to the periodical returns published by the Government it will be seen that in the matter of appointments on Rs. 35 and upwards but below Rs. 100, out of a sanctioned strength of 22,773 appointments there were only 116 belonging to the scheduled classes holding the appointments in the year 1934. Whereas, according to the Government Order the number should have been nearly 2,000. Similarly, in the case of appointments on less than Rs. 35, out of a sanctioned strength of 54,735 there were only 1,966 scheduled classes instead of nearly 4,600 if the Government Order is applied. As appointments on these low scales of pay do not require consideration of very high standard of educational qualifications, the plea that a sufficient number of candidates from the depressed classes are not forthcoming will not hold good. I would, therefore, request Government to issue necessary instructions to all concerned in the matter.

"In order to enable the depressed classes to eke out their living, it is necessary that they should undergo training in technical schools. With this view I would request Government that such of the candidates as may produce poverty certificates may be given free instruction in technical schools including the Kerala Soap Factory.

"Sir, it will be admitted that the children of the depressed classes are sent to schools at a late age and it is, therefore, necessary that some special concession should be granted to them in the matter of age-limit for entering Government service. I would, therefore, request Government that the age-limit may be raised to 27 for technical appointments and 30 for others.

"Last but not least, Sir, my request to Government is to exempt the poor depressed class candidates from the payment of fees charged by the Madras Services Commission. On a reference to Appendix C of the Administration Report of the Madras Services Commission for the year 1933–34, it will be observed that out of about 2,200 applications there were only about 30 from the depressed classes and this number includes 8 in which applications from depressed classes only were called for. Thus it will be seen that if effect is given to my request the loss of income on this account will be too small."

* Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am so sorry that I cannot join in the general chorus of praise that has been showered upon the Hon. the Finance Member for his successful budgeting. Not

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that I do not like him personally. (Laughter.) I like his straightness and brusqueness which infolds a generous nature; not that I do not like his minor virtues as Finance Member. I like his mounting guard against wasteful expenditure and putting his foot down upon such proposals from whomsoever they might emanate. We are thankful to him for cutting the coat according to the cloth and presenting us a surplus budget. All the same, sharing as I do the sufferings and tribulations of the ryot, and ryot as I am, I cannot bring myself to congratulate him on his utter neglect—may I say almost criminal neglect of the ryot. I said he was generous by nature; but his generosity is exhausted in pampering the Services, in bolstering up topheavy establishments. When it comes to the question of the ryot, he plays the role of a Shylock. He is niggardly as has been the case in the suspension or remission of 12½ per cent remission. He seems to illustrate the adage that 'the dog at home claims more attention than the lion in the forest.' I do not know why and how the Cabinet including himself stumbled upon that wonderful proportion of 12½ per cent—either remission or suspension, it is all the same for the ryot, because it does not touch even the fringe of his distress. During the debate on the resolution for a remission of 33⅓ per cent, facts and figures were very clearly laid for it on the floor of the House, both before him and the Hon. the Revenue Member, and the other Members of the Cabinet. But the result is the same. They turned a deaf ear. They did not budge an inch. That shows that they do not care even a brass farthing for the representations of the representatives of the public. In his reply to the debate on that resolution, the Hon. the Revenue Member asked, if really the ryots were so destitute, how they could have paid 98 per cent of the assessment in the previous year. I am afraid that question has emanated more from his head than from his heart, for he knows very well how cent per cent of the assessment was paid by the ryot. It is an open secret—and in fact, everybody knows it—that if anybody says that he will not pay the kist, he will be clapped in jail—and in some districts, some have been clapped in jail even in advance. If, on the other hand, anybody pleads his inability to pay it in all sincerity, what will be his fate? His property will be attached and sold in auction for a mere song. Then what would be the effect of that sale upon him and his children? So the unfortunate ryot stands between the devil and deep sea. In that condition he could not but pay off. Yesterday, the same Hon. Gentleman, disposing of the proposition that the ryot is destitute not only in Salem but all the Presidency over, was quoting facts and figures. But, I submit, Sir, these facts and figures are not true. Facts and figures that are submitted to the Government by their subordinates are more or less 'His Master's Voice.' These figures are meticulously prepared by the subordinates of the Revenue Department who are inspired by that notorious individual, the village accountant, the karnam in our parts and kanakkupillai in the south. Both of them are a plague to the village—not only to the village but to the Government as well, because by submitting such

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wrong figures, they will be undermining the power of the Government and alienating the Government from the people.

"It is an established fact now that the ryot is able to meet the insistent demand of land revenue by disposal of almost the whole produce that he rears on his lands. Of course there may be a small margin in some cases; but in many cases, I know the ryots burn their fingers very badly and in some cases do not even get enough to meet the demand of revenue. The ryot is after all unfortunately a human being. He has to meet the little needs of humanity, the daily routine of life, maintain himself and attend to cultivation expenses, education and marriage of his children and the rest. In such circumstances, he is obliged to run into debts; so much so, it is a truism to say that the ryot has become a chronic debtor. Any investigation in any part of the Presidency will prove to the hilt what I say. Unfortunately, at this juncture, when the ryot is ground down by economic depression, his old creditors go on dunning him for the repayment of their debts. While the extent of his indebtedness is increasing, unfortunately the value of the lands has been decreasing. What was selling at Rs. 1,000 per acre now goes for a mere song, say, about two to three hundred rupees. So much so, previously, one-third of his property could have covered his whole debt, now even his whole property is not enough for the same.

"Sir, in other Provinces, Government have been solicitous for the welfare of the ryots in at least relieving the burden of agricultural indebtedness. Even in the backwaters of India, i.e., in the Central Province, the Punjab, Bombay and other Provinces, the Governments have passed relief measures for the amelioration of the condition of the ryot. On the other hand, here, even a private Bill, the Debt Conciliation Bill of Diwan Bahadur Ramalingam Chettiyar, was allowed to hang in the air for about two years and only recently he was allowed to move it. At the same time the Government have apointed a Special Officer to collect statistics. I wonder what statistics he would collect which are not already in the archives of the Government. It means delay that will eventually result in shelving the measure. Even in the small native State of Bawanagar, Sir Prabhasankar Pattani cleared away all the debts of the ryots and has started the ryots on a fresh life.

"Co-operative societies, although they were started a long time ago, do not help the ryot either. They are still in the preliminary stage, i.e., the lending stage only. In the matter of recovery of loans, they demand payment at a time when the ryot is badly in need of money. We do not see any stocking of grains on a co-operative basis or any agricultural operation either. With regard to land mortgage banks, if they lend money and relieve the ryots of their debts and demand repayment only by easy instalments, it will be a consummation to be devoutly wished for. But unfortunately it is still in a theoretical and academic stage and I have not seen any instance anywhere in my district or elsewhere any tangible help given to the ryot in this direction by any land mortgage bank."

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"Now, Sir, in foreign countries, in the United States for instance, President Roosevelt has been spending crores of rupees upon agriculturists at this psychological moment in order to put them on their feet. So also in Italy; but of course you may say there is a dictator there and ours is a democracy. It is quite good to have a dictator who affords such relief to the ryots. In Italy, the agriculturists have been helped a great deal as also in Germany and other parts of the Continent including England and Ireland. But here unfortunately the Government have been sitting with folded hands Micowbar-like waiting for something good to befall. If they continue to be so supine, listless and inactive I wonder why they should exist at all." 3–45 p.m

* Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM Pantulu:—"Sir, I will be failing in my duty if I do not congratulate the Hon. the Finance Member for the beautiful way in which he has presented the budget. From administration point of view, the speech is practicable and sensible, but I am sorry from the people's point of view it is entirely misleading as he has wholly misread the situation in the Province. The very constitution of the Finance Committee which is supposed to have given these recommendations is not of a representative character. The constitution is such that they could not give prominence to their recommendations. My chief complaint has always been against the transferred half of the Government. I always complain that the representatives of the people ought to be a little bit assertive. They have not done that. There have been so many wasteful items of expenditure which the Hon. Ministers should have pointed out to the Government and made them utilize the savings effected thereby for the benefit of the agriculturists. For instance, in the Local Self-Government Department the first Minister could have safely avoided certain wasteful expenditure in his department. The appointment of the Inspector of Local Boards is a superfluous appointment and the Inspector of Local Boards is of no use to the public. I do not know why such an appointment should be continued and there are many other items provisions for which could be wiped out. These amounts could be utilized for better purposes. I do not criticise the action of the Ministry in the sense in which Mr. Thevar has done it. The Ministers have not forsaken the confidence of the public by a single instance here or a single instance there. These are personal matters which do not concern the public. We know as experienced people they are expected to hear the grievances of the people in various parts of the province, study their conditions, discuss matters and hear representations. I am sorry to observe that none of the three Ministers has done these satisfactorily. They all err on the other side. As a leader of the Andhra movement occupying unique position he is expected to do everything for the Andhra province because he has got experience of the Andhra country and he knows the grievances much better than anyone of us. Even though he has accepted this position he has also demonstrated even there that there is so much to be done for the people of the Province. In the reserved half he can forward proposals for the grant of lands to the poor people who have lost

properties. He can disafforest certain areas for purposes of cultivation and it will be a remunerative thing. (*A voice: 'It is outside.'*) He can try for it even he is not inside. With regard to the Hon. Member Mr. Pannirselvam I hope he will try to do his best for the people in so far as his portfolios are concerned. With regard to the Education Minister I have got one or two words to say. I think the Government can safely abolish the educational councils for which it has been spending a lot of money. After all they are not powerful bodies doing useful work in the Province. They are only creating quarrels between the district educational officers and the local boards. Instead of continuing such bodies with no powers it is better to abolish those bodies and spend the amount for other purposes. With regard to the agricultural farms I may say that I had occasion to visit several farms. I see only experiments are conducted there. I do not know how many more years those experiments will have to be conducted. I think it is better to abolish those farms which are not already self-supporting and the money is made available for any other useful purpose. With regard to the land revenue remissions so kindly granted by the Government I must tell you that the relief given is not adequate and the information given with regard to the crops and their estimates are really wrong. My friend Mr. Kolanda Reddi was saying that the karnam was at the back of it all. Certainly the karnam should be blamed if the information given by him goes to the Revenue Member. One karnam has given an estimate of the crop when the crop was standing on the land and the same was checked by an officer lower than the deputy tahsildar. After the crop on several fields was cut and removed and stacked in a place when the Tahsildar and Revenue Divisional Officer came there and pulled out one corn and examined and said that the information was not correct. On that ground the karnam's estimate was not accepted. He was not only dismissed but his heirs were also debarred. In another case one deputy tahsildar who took the initiative and reported to the Government about the estimate of the crop, he was sent out to another district on public grounds and I understand his probation period was also ceased. If these are the methods that Government are going to continue I do not know where we can get the real information. Our representations here are not cared for. In these circumstances how can the karnams be expected to tell the truth? I hope the Hon. the Revenue Member will get the wrong estimates properly checked and relieve the poor agriculturists from the distress. With regard to the Finance Committee I have already stated that it is not of a representative character. I have always an admiration for the capacity of the Hon. the Finance Member. He beautifully mesmorises the Members of the Committee and gets his recommendations approved. In the Finance Committee meeting about the land revenue concessions he said that discussion was after all informal discussion and the recommendations were all after all informal recommendations. Now they come and say these are proposals formulated and sanctioned by the Finance Committee. As regards other departments also there is a lot of wasteful expenditure which could be safely avoided. My method of

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representation to hon. Members is more by way of appeal than criticism in and out of season and trying to extract something out of them. They should also be generous minded and feel for the people of the country. They won't continue in their offices eternally. They must come to this side one day or the other. In the same spirit I request hon. Members both on the transferred and reserved side to treat these points with some sympathy and see if they can do some service to the people. With these remarks I resume my seat."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, on an occasion like this when any hon. Member could in his speech cover anything under the Sun relating to the Government, it is really difficult to resist the temptation to speak on many subjects. However, speaking at this late hour before a very thin House, I feel that I must confine myself to one or two subjects.

" I desire mainly to deal with a subject which may perhaps appear to be local, but which is really not a local subject, as similar conditions may prevail in other parts of the province also. I represent a district in which diverse interests exist and peculiar conditions prevail. The failure of crops not only in the district but also in Burma or in Ceylon or in the Straits Settlements, affect the prosperity of the people of my district. Similarly, the fall in the price of agricultural products, food crops as well as commercial crops and the fall in the price of rubber or tapioca in the Far East affect this district. (An hon. Member: 'It is a land of bankers.') Yes; it is a land of bankers. It may also be called a land where the natives of the district have got a great deal to do with the mining of rubies in Burma. It is a land where considerable salt is manufactured. It is a land where a considerable quantity of cotton is raised. It is again a land where a vast and connected system of irrigation devised by our ancestors exists for the purpose of irrigation; but Heavens must bless it with timely and adequate rains. There ought not to be difficulties in other countries with which Ramnad has to deal.

" I am not here, Sir, either to extol or to condemn, but to state the sufferings of the people of the Ramnad district during the last few years and to place before the House the sufferings through which the people are likely to pass in the year to come. It is a well-known fact that there has been considerable loss of crops in many taluks of the Ramnad district. More than three-fourths of this district is covered by zamindaris and there are only two taluks, Sattur and Srivilliputtur, which are Government taluks. Even in them there are about twenty zamindaris. The hon. the Finance Member in his speech mentioned:—

'At any rate it would certainly be rash to act on any such anticipation in attempting to budget for the next twelve months. To add to our troubles, the rains in this Presidency both in the South-West and the North-East monsoons have been light, unevenly distributed and in a considerable number of districts quite inadequate. The Ceded districts have been specially affected. The situation is being met by measures usual in such cases.'

" Among the districts where suspension or remission of land revenue has been given, the Hon. the Finance Member mentions the Ramnad

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district also. This measure of relief can, in the circumstances, be at all useful only to the Government tracts in the two taluks. The rains have not been withheld only in the two Government taluks of the district. Rains were poor practically in the whole of the district. The river supply has failed and the monsoon has been irregular. Recently, I had occasion to visit some parts of the taluks of Tiruppattur, Sivaganga, Mudukulattur and Aruppukottai. The condition of the crops was very precarious; the water in wells was beginning to dry up. There will be soon a water famine. The taluks which I mentioned are in the zamindaris of Ramnad and Sivaganga The population of the district is roughly about two millions, of which a million and a half live in the p.m. zamindaris. You can easily realize how the failure of the rains and the loss of crops will seriously affect the bulk of the population in the district. Ordinarily, remission of land revenue is useful only in the taluks where Government receive revenue from the ryots, but in zamindaris, we do not know of any system by which suspension of the collection of rent can be ordered. Some of my hon. Friends raised the question whether the Government are wise in not attempting to raise further revenue for the province from the zamindars by enhancing the peshkash. My hon. Friend, Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar, the latest addition to the owners of Impartible Estates, was alarmed and in his speech he sounded a note of warning against the Government yielding to their pressure for enhancing the peshkash. I do not think there is any danger of raising the peshkash. It is not practical politics at all, even though some zamindars might be willing to have it altered. Permanent settlement in the zamindaris is a settled fact which can never be disturbed either for enhancement or for reduction. Once upon a time I had a curiosity to know how at least in some of the bigger zamindaris, the permanent assessment was arrived at. In one at least of the two big zamindars of this district, the peshkash was fixed at two-thirds of the net revenue to the zamindari. It is only by extension of cultivation and by the rise in the price of agricultural products that this two-third of the net revenue, worked out to-day on the current prices, would be found to be less. However, apart from this question, what we are now concerned with is: how to alleviate the distress among a large population in the zamindari tracts of this district and other districts similarly situated. That distress of a widespread character does exist and calls for relief would be apparent even from the action of a neighbouring State, viz., Pudukottah, which adjoins Ramnad and Sivaganga where the State found it necessary to remit 50 per cent of the kist payable by the ryots, to open relief works in some places, and to push on public works for the purpose of keeping people employed. The Government should take into account the condition of not only the zamindari ryots but of the zamindars also. Owing to a variety of causes over which neither the zamindars nor their ryots had no control, both have found themselves in a precarious situation economically. If the Government were to press for the prompt payment of the dues by the zamindars to the Government, the zamindars would have to go to the ryots and press them to pay their rents at a time when it would be really difficult

to collect rent easily. I do not hold a brief for the zamindars, but I am stating a fact and inviting attention to the need for doing something in a way by which all the parties concerned may have relief. I wish very much the Hon. the Revenue Member visits the districts as early as possible and sees for himself the situation. In normal times, the large banking population of my district were the sources to which the zamindars turned for monetary accommodation, to find funds for repair of irrigation sources, etc. Now, owing to the trade depression in Burma, Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, the bankers of the district are themselves in a very difficult situation.

"Mr. President, you would recollect the interjection of my Hon. Friend the Law Member who called Ramnad the 'land of bankers.' True, the bankers have considerable business in Burma, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, French East Indies and the Dutch East Indies; but to-day their position is not quite encouraging. In these circumstances, one suggestion that strikes me is that Government may encourage deserving zamindars with loans for the purpose of their undertaking useful schemes of irrigation within their own zamindaris, which will benefit their ryots as well as themselves.

"Another suggestion is to encourage local bodies to start and push through schemes of public works in the shape of sinking wells in the rural areas, constructing roads and bridges for which estimates and plans might be ready. The Government may liberally help local bodies with grants and in appropriate cases with loans.

"There is another subject to which I desire to invite attention. Ramnad has been a district of bankers, and the litigation of the district not only concerns suits and obligations arising within the district but also those which arise in their trade centres in other countries. Time was when there was hardly an application in insolvency. Now, for some years, it is a painful fact that the number of applications in insolvency in the Ramnad courts has been increasing. This is not an index of prosperity.

"My hon. Friend Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar who spoke in Tamil referred to the question of court-fees. He asked: 'Why should not the Government refund the court-fee, or at least partially or at least a portion of it, when plaints were put in but returned and not filed?' I ask my Friend the Hon. Law Member for a moment to recollect the circumstances under which the Court Fees Act was amended in 1922 and the court-fees were raised. He may remember that there was considerable discussion as to the proposed amendment, whether it was to be permanent or if it was to be temporary, how long the enhancement of the court-fees was to last. If I remember right, his predecessor in office, the Hon. Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar, told the House that the increase was only in view of the necessity to find money to cover the deficit and to balance the Budget, and that the enhancement would not be permanent. At that time, there was an anticipated deficit of over Rs. 80 lakhs. A number of members of this House including the present Law Member,

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Sir A. P. Patro and myself, went in deputation to Delhi to plead with the then Viceroy for the remission of the Provincial contribution. There were various suggestions—whether betel leaf, tobacco or amusements could be taxed, and whether court-fees and stamp-fees could not be raised. Among other things eventually decided on, the court-fee was raised. I am sure my Hon. Friend the Law Member will try to recollect what all took place then and will use his influence and make his best efforts to reduce the court-fees. Promises of temporary taxation have got a dangerous tendency to stultify themselves by the taxation becoming permanent. Let me hope that the court-fees question may be an exception. Many of us in those days tried hard to influence the Government to refund half the court-fees in cases where suits were compromised before trial began. Even that modicum of relief was not given. The heaviness of the court-fee is a legitimate grievance and deserves attention."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member's time is up."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—" This is a subject on which I may have to say very much more. However, I close here, hoping that the Hon. the Law Member will have the time, the patience and the energy to take up this subject in right earnest and give relief."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Sir, my quota of congratulation to the Hon. the Finance Member is not in any way less than that of members who spoke before me. Of course I might say that it is highly creditable to him that he was able to balance the budget when the whole country has been exposed to heavy stress and strain and is almost on the verge of starvation. Even in Bombay the Finance Member could not balance the budget and showed a deficit of 2 crores. That being the case, we must congratulate the Hon. the Finance Member for the able way in which he has framed the Budget. But I should say that though the budget is a fit one, it is not satisfactory to us. The Hon. Finance Member has given a rosy account of the conditions of this province. There I differ from him. The conditions in the mufassal are not so good as they ought to be and they are very far from satisfactory. Taking my district of Tinnevelly, there has been a decrease in the institution of suits in civil courts, decrease in criminal cases and there has been a fall in the registered documents in the offices of registration. The reason for all this is that people have been exposed to heavy strain and unprecedented economic depression. In some taluks, I should say people have been driven to the verge of starvation; in the taluks of Nanguneri, Tenkasi, Sankarankoil and Kovilpatti which are not connected with or irrigated by the Tambraparni people are on the verge of famine. So far as Nanguneri is concerned, the usual rainfall of 16 inches has come down in the current year to 3 inches. So the predictions of the Finance Member that there would be a chance of improvement in the financial position of the country cannot be accepted as sound. The Hon. the Finance Member has stated that there should be fresh sources of income to be tapped and the consideration of levying taxes from

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fresh sources cannot now be long deferred. People have been already complaining that they have been overtaxed. They want a reduction of tax, and this Council has passed a resolution that 33-1/3 per cent of the tax should be remitted. But the Government have stated that they are unable to accede to that, inasmuch as that step would involve a loss of 371 lakhs to the exchequer. That may be so, but the Government should try to alleviate the sufferings of the people and try to meet them half way. Several clerks in the subordinate services asked me, 'What are you going to do for the people in the Council, since people are exposed to enormous suffering on account of the failure of crops consequent on the failure of rain.' I asked them in turn whether they were prepared to suffer a cut in their salary. They replied they would rather suffer a cut in their salary than allow the present system of taxation to continue in force in these days of starvation. Now the conditions of the country have not changed since the time when the cut was raised. So such a step should be thought of in the present circumstances and thereby some relief should be afforded to the people who are on the verge of starvation.

"As regards the depressed classes, our conditions I submit, remain the same as before. We thought much more would be done for the amelioration of the depressed classes, but we find not much improvement in our position. Government spent 20 lakhs or so every year and now they have reduced the allotments considerably. Formerly, the operations of the Labour Department were extended to 20 districts, whereas they have now been restricted only to 13 districts. It is neither fairness nor justice to do so. The amenities and privileges enjoyed by the people of 13 districts must be extended to the people of all the districts.

"Another point I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Revenue Member who holds the portfolio of Public Services Commission is this. One great disadvantage the depressed classes are subjected to is that they have been included in what is called 'scheduled classes.' Time and again, the depressed classes have been exposed to the insults of being called by several names. In the past they were called Panchamas. Afterwards they were called Adi-Dravidas at the instance of Mr. M. C. Rajah with the approval of the Government and Mahatma Gandhi who arrogated to himself the position of protector of the depressed classes called them Harijans. Now Government have called them the 'scheduled classes'. They are not showing them the same indulgence and liberality as they were showing them before. The 'scheduled classes' according to the Government Order consists of 147 classes. My Friend, Mr. Srinivasan has said that the depressed classes were limited to 11 classes. If, for the purpose of employment in Government service, the depressed classes are clubbed with what are called the 'scheduled classes,' that means nothing would be done to them. My hon. Friends objected to the depressed class Christians being treated in the same way as depressed classes. I think Nemesis has overtaken them. What they have achieved, they have failed to

maintain by putting up a strong fight. I have also tried to show by means of interpellations that Naidus and Maravars have been included under 'scheduled classes' and they stand in the way of the progress of the depressed classes. I may suggest to the Hon. the Revenue Member that the classification of 'scheduled classes' should be abolished. May I ask him on what principle the term 'scheduled classes' was invented? Is it on the basis of untouchability or backwardness in education and wealth or social status that such a classification is adopted? It is for the Government to consider whether there is any logic in calling 147 classes as 'scheduled classes.'

"Another point that several hon. Members spoke about is the evils of unemployment. I submit that unemployment arises from the nature of education imparted to our young men in this country. The system of education must be improved. Every man who receives education in any of the schools must be able to stand on his own legs after he finishes his education, and enters upon his life. My hon. Friends, Mr. Muthu Chettiyar and Mr. Arasu spoke on the imposition of taxes on luxuries, namely, motor cars, entertainments, and even betels, arecanut and tobacco. I am not at one with them. It is high time that the Government should revise their policy. This country has extensive waste lands. What have the Government done to improve them? The main sources of income for Government are from land and excise. Have the Government tapped the resources of the country in the way they ought to have done? It is up to the Government to convert barren lands into fertile fields by opening or constructing tanks and reservoirs in all places where they could be started. Even in places where they could not do so, they can encourage the people to open poultry, dairy, and fruit farms and thus increase the resources of the country, and impose further taxes.

"Before I close my speech I want to say one or two words about my Friend, Rattamalai Srinivasan. He said that the missionaries were doing great harm to the depressed classes. I do not agree with him at all. Last year also he made the same charge which was ably rebutted by my Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas. He is waging a crusade against Christians. Mr. Muniswami Pillai in the course of his speech to-day said that what the Government had not done, the missionaries were able to achieve in the district of Ramnad. That is a sufficient answer to him. That is the case, Sir. If he only compared the conditions of the people before the advent of the missionaries with the conditions after their advent, and considered the labours that were spent on the depressed classes as well as on other classes, then he would not have had that audacity to say that missionaries are doing great harm. With these words I close my speech."

* Mr M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—"One feature of the discussion of this year's budget is that it not only relates to the annual budget but also to the financial administration of this Province for the last four or five years. The budget can be looked at from two standpoints,

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namely, from the stand-point of tax-gatherer and from the stand-point of the tax-payer. Looked at from the first stand-point, the Finance Member may rightly take credit for administering the finances of this Province during this period with success. He has introduced two or three salutary and welcome changes in the manner of his preparing the budget.

" He has, in the first place, avoided over-budgeting of expenditure. He has almost completely succeeded in preventing over-budgeting. Another thing he has achieved is that he has introduced equilibrium between revenue and expenditure charged to revenue. He began with that object and we should be glad that at the end of his term of office, he has seen this policy carried out almost successfully. Again, Sir, he found it possible to present us with a surplus budget when other Provinces are labouring very hard even to balance their budget. In our province, the surplus appears at first glance to be Rs. 4·85 lakhs, but if you take into consideration the allotment of Rs. 6 lakhs provided for elections which are not likely to take place this year, you will see that your real surplus is going to be Rs. 11 lakhs. Sir, the opening balance is mentioned as Rs. 214 lakhs and the closing balance as 142 lakhs. Really the closing balance will amount to Rs. 219 lakhs if you take into account the sum of Rs. 77 and odd lakhs which has been spent on capital expenditure. Again, we have a sum of Rs. 249 lakhs advanced as loans, etc., from the Provincial balance from the year 1928–29 up to now. If you take note of all these items, you will see that our financial position is quite sound and strong. For bringing about this position, much credit is no doubt due to the Hon. the Finance Member. But my complaint is that all these things have been achieved by him with the figures available to him within the four walls of the Secretariat, and without putting himself in touch with the real situation in the country. That is why I say that if the budget is looked at from the point of view of the tax-payer it is a failure.

" Sir, the Government themselves have admitted that prices, if at all, are only *tending* to rise. That means that except in regard to one or two commodities there has been no rise at all. They have also admitted that the season has been a failure generally. A lot of gold has been drained away from the country and the present state of the ryot is wretched and deplorable. But what does the Hon. the Revenue Member say? The other day he said that he was able to collect the taxes quite easily, that the collection in proportion to the demand was quite satisfactory and that the people were quite able to pay. I think, Sir, the fact that you were able to collect your revenues is a wrong test to apply to ascertain the condition of the ryots. The Hon. Member ought to know that the Indian ryot is a self-respecting man. He will rather starve himself to death than see that his land is sold in auction. He is not like the Westerner who lives on the unemployment doles. The Indian ryot is so much attached to his ancestral property that he would undergo any ordeal to prevent it being taken way from him. In these circumstances, the test of payment by him is no test at all to

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prove his capacity to pay. The suspension of revenue that is proposed to be made during the current year is very meagre. Now let us see *how the Government justify their position.* They do not say that remission is not called for. They say that there is no money to meet the demand made by Members of this House for granting remission. Sir, if only the Government are sincere in their desire to grant remission, I have no doubt they can find ways and means to do so, though not to the extent desired by this Hon'ble House. I say, Sir, if they are not in a position to give remission to the extent suggested in the resolution passed by this House, they can grant as much remission as possible consistent with the situation. In the matter of granting this remission, I may suggest to them that they should give greater consideration *to the 5 Rupee or 10 Rupee pattadars,* because they are the people who deserve it most. If for the purpose of granting remission a graduated scale had been adopted, the more deserving small pattadars would have got appreciable succour.

"Now, Sir, in the matter of restoring the salary cut of Government servants, I must express my dissent. In other provinces also there is bitter complaint made against the restoration of the salary cuts. If the salary cut had not been restored, about 20 or 25 lakhs could be had for affording relief to the ryots.

"In this connexion I may bring to the notice of the Hon. Member the fact that this Province was paying by way of Provincial contribution to the Government of India some 3¾ crores. That sum was released to us some years ago. But where is that gone? It should be noted that that amount was raised by enhancing land revenue. When that is given back to this Government by the Government of India is it not logical that at any rate a major portion of it should be given back to the ryots in these days of depression when they are in a sad plight?

"With regard to the Famine Relief Fund I should say that it is quite over-stocked and yet, if the interpretation put on the Code is accepted as the right interpretation, it would not give much relief to the ryots. I therefore say that suitable steps should be taken at an early date to relax the rules so that famine relief can be given on a very extensive scale before famine conditions actually are upon us.

"With regard to the top-heavy administration, I find fresh steps should be taken to reduce the cost. No doubt a retrenchment committee was appointed to look into the question and it was able to effect some appreciable reduction in expenditure. But I believe there is still great scope for effecting more retrenchment.

"Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member was evidently very much concerned with leaving the province in a sound financial condition on the eve of the introduction of the new Reforms. No doubt he is quite justified in his action. But may I point out to him that that should not be his only concern? It is true that the new Constitution should be ushered in under very favourable circumstances. But we must also

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have the ryot in our mind. The other day, the Hon. the Law Member was much enthused over the Joint Parliamentary Committee Report and talked of the Goddess dancing on the Himalayas. I may also make a small illustration. The Hon. the Finance Member is looking to the necessity for so ordering the finances of this Province as to secure to those on whom under the new Constitution would fall the direction of affairs, a reasonably favourable start. In doing so he completely overlooks the other side of the picture. In paving the way forward he is preparing the ground, levelling it and clearing the bushes and the race is starting. But, Sir, at the end of the race—I do not know whether he failed to see or whether his vision was blurred—there is a deep ravine. The deep ravine in this case is the discontented condition of the ryots. The constitutional experiment would be launched with the booming of guns and all paraphernalia. But when the poor ryot has broken down, what is the good of the Constitution unwanted with its second chamber, the indirect elections and the safeguards? Of what avail is this for the poor ryot? Sir, I may sound a note of warning. History will show that all big upheavals have taken place without sufficient indication. That is they took place without any open or plain indications. Sir, if you are wise, you will take note of the subtle warnings to avert it. All great upheavals like the peasants' revolt, etc., in other countries took place because the signs were neglected. Similarly in this case, the condition of the ryots is such that the Government ought to take notice of it and see that discontent does not spread. If it spreads there will come a time when it will flare up and a conflagration will take place. Sir, let the Hon. the Finance Member remember the proverb that even a worm would turn."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Mr. President, Sir, I wish that I had enough time to go into a comprehensive treatment of this Budget. I shall first refer to the famine conditions in the Ceded districts as that is the subject on which I am most anxious to speak. Afterwards if I find that there is time I shall go into the details of the Budget.

" Sir, the famine conditions in the Ceded districts are fairly acute and you are aware of them. My complaint to-day is that the Famine Code under which relief is to be administered is so much antiquated that even if one has the greatest sympathy to the people all that he could do under its provisions would be very little. I ask, Sir, whether this Famine Code is such a sacred thing that it cannot be changed?

" So many of the provisions are so antiquated and antediluvian 4-4 p.m.
that Government will at once take steps to see that, if they really want to give real relief to these famine-stricken areas, some of them are changed at as early a date as possible.

" Sir, with regard to scale of wages to the relief workers, it is much less than what is given to the prisoners. Is it the intention of the Government that these famine-stricken people should commit crimes and go to prison to get more wages, rather than doing honest work and

earn their wages which will be sufficient for them to make both ends meet? I have no time to go into details, but I will only quote the total quantity that is given to a prisoner and that given to a relief worker. The total quantity that is given to a prisoner is 88·75 tolas and that given to a relief worker is 71·25 tolas. I have pointed out the detailed figures in the Memorandum that I have submitted to the Hon. the Revenue Member and I hope the Government will consider this question seriously. There is a provision in the Famine Code under which the Government could increase the rations given to the relief worker by 25 *per cent* and I hope the Government will take immediate steps to do so. Under the present scale an able-bodied labourer gets As. 1–6, women get from 1 anna to As. 1–3 and boys from 9 pies to 1 anna. With regard to gratuitous relief given to the dependents of these people, I went the other day to one of the relief camps and asked the authorities to give sufficient food to the children, and I found that every one of them ate at least more than half beyond their usual rations. I do not mind the older people getting less, cruel as it is. In the case of younger generation, the little children, if they are under-fed and under-nourished, what are we to do? In the words of Lenin, the Regenerator of Russia, if we are to produce men with nerves of steel and muscles of iron, I believe, the Government ought to see that better and more rations are given to these children.

"Then, Sir, the sort of work that these people are given is of very little use. In most of the relief works, the works that are done are road works such as breaking metal and stacking gravel. The Report of Famine in Madras Presidency during 1896–97 itself has pointed out the inutility of having this form of work. They say—

'When the works are small and scattered, they are difficult to supervise adequately and, therefore, though productive not wholly suitable for relief purposes, except in the earlier stages of distress. In the end, therefore, in the Deccan too, the construction and repair of roads and the collection of road metal formed the backbone of the programme of relief works. Such works are in the large majority of cases taken in hand merely from the necessity of finding work of any kind for the numbers demanding employment; for many other roads constructed by famine labour are not kept up afterwards for want of funds.'

"Sir, as a matter of fact, the metal that was broken during the last great famine, some 50 years ago, is still in some places in existence and I do not know what purpose it would serve. I hope that Government will take serious steps to give some better and more useful form of work to these people.

"I have stated in my memorandum what the Government has to do with regard to the vital needs of the village, viz., water-supply, construction of buildings, village dispensaries, reading rooms, theatres, school buildings and things of that kind. Besides this, I have also laid stress on the fact whether Government, taking advantage of the present position, could not begin rebuilding the villages, particularly in the black-cotton soil. In the matter of constructing buildings, the Health department is trying to see if better sanitary arrangements cannot be brought about, but it has utterly failed. Particularly in black-cotton soil some of the buildings have no windows and hence no light and

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cattle and people are living together. Conditions are undoubtedly bad and if the present famine time is taken advantage of and money is spent on rebuilding these houses, it will be a better and useful form of work. Besides it will create work for the small ryot. The small ryot is much more in need of work than the ordinary labourer, and I hope the Government will consider the sad plight in which these famine-stricken ryots are placed and improve their position.

"There is one direction in which the Government can really help these people and that is with regard to the salt concession. As a result of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact, in many places the people were allowed to manufacture salt, but afterwards this concession was withdrawn. If this concession is again revived, it will be a great relief to the people. I do not want to make any political capital out of this. But the fact is that these people were originally manufacturing salt. A concession like this will greatly help the cattle. For want of a sufficient quantity of good fodder, all sorts of things such as margosa leaves, date leaves, etc., are given to them; and if salt is mixed with it, it would greatly help. These poor people cannot afford to buy salt. So if a concession like that is given to them, it will greatly help the poor people. So I hope that Government will take some steps to see that some help is given to these people in this direction.

"With regard to land revenue remission, the people in the area are grateful to the Government for what they have done. But under the present peculiar circumstances prevailing in these districts, we really require more relief. In certain cases the ryots have to sell away their properties because they have been unable to pay their kists. Instead of giving them these suspensions and partial remissions, I hope the Government will see their way to give them full remission.

"There is one thing which attracts the attention of everybody who goes to those parts. With regard to cattle, there is not sufficient response whatever from the Government. We are thankful to the Government for selling grass at a lower price than the cost price, but still, Sir, most of the people who depend upon these cattle for the cultivation of their lands and for other purposes, are not sufficiently well-to-do to buy fodder even at the rate at which it is sold. Many people in Northern Circars have promised to give us free fodder, but we have to pay very heavy railway freight. The other day I saw a telegram in the *Andhrapatrika* with reference to a question put to the Government of India whether the Local Governments have applied to them with regard the Railway authorities as well as the Government of India to see that 'No.' I hope this Government will take immediate steps to address the railway authorities as well as the Government of India to see that the railway freights are reduced as early as possible. Already a number of cattle including milch cattle have been sold away. Even to-day, if we get the railway concession, there is a chance of getting fodder from Northern Circars and we can thus save the remaining cattle. We

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want some milk at least for the babies. So I hope that Government will take serious steps to see that some concession is given to us or fodder sold free or at nominal rates.

"It is stated that Famine Relief Fund has got some 62 lakhs of rupees. If the Government really want to give relief to these famine-affected areas, even the 62 lakhs of rupees referred to above may not be sufficient. I hope the Government will not hesitate to spend as much as they can out of this fund. Are we, Sir, to suffer from these famines ever and anon? We have had in the past Famine and Irrigation Commissions which, dealing with the conditions of the Ceded districts, made certain recommendations which the Government have not taken steps to give effect to, to see that something is done for the improvement of these districts both by means of irrigation as well as by starting industries. This is what the Report of the Indian Famine Committee, 1878, says:—

'A main cause of the disastrous consequences of Indian famines and one of the greatest difficulties in the way of providing relief in an effectual shape is to be found in the fact that the great mass of the population directly depends on agriculture and that there is no other industry from which any considerable part of the community derives its support. The failure of the usual rain thus deprives the labouring class, as a whole, not only of the ordinary supplies of food obtainable at prices within their reach, but also of the sole employment by which they can earn the means of procuring food. The complete remedy for this condition of things will be found only in the development of industries other than agriculture and independent of the fluctuations of the seasons. With a population so dense as that of India, these considerations are of the greatest weight and they are rendered still more serious by the fact that the numbers who have no other employment other than agriculture are in large parts of the country greatly in excess of what is really required for the thorough cultivation of the land.'

"That was the recommendation of the Famine Committee some 50 years ago when the population depending upon agriculture was much less and when many cottage industries were still flourishing. So, I would ask the Hon. the Minister for Industries to consider this point and see what a great necessity exists for developing the industries of this province. In other countries which are similarly circumstanced as ours, particularly in Russia where they drew up a systematic programme, the industrial output during the last five years has been doubled, if not, trebled. What is possible in Russia ought to be possible in India also. If we compare our output of work with those of other civilized countries in the world, ours is the lowest excepting China. In the Eastern Hemisphere, for instance in Japan, which has come to prominence only during the last 40 or 50 years, it is $3\frac{1}{2}$ times, Germany 12 times, Great Britain 18 times, Canada 20 times and the United States of America 30 times and this shows our industrial backwardness. These figures are taken from the excellent book of Sir M. Visveswarayya recently published, viz., "Planned Economy for India." If we take into account, the man power and the wonderful resources available in this country, I do not see any reason why we cannot develop industrially as other countries have done. The only way to put an end to our poverty is the creation of industries. If one looks at the progress that has been made during recent years in Japan,

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Russia and the United States of America in their industrial and agricultural development, our Hon. Ministers who, I believe, lay claim for having done much in this direction will now be convinced that what they have done is almost nothing. With regard to public health, we have not at all improved. With regard to education, though Russia has been able to reduce illiteracy from 83 per cent to 10 per cent since the Great Revolution, after more than a century of British Rule in India, we are still almost in the same condition. No doubt, the Government will always advance the plea of want of finance. In a matter which so vitally concerns the welfare of the State, I believe considerations of finance should not at all come into play. The improvement of this country depends upon the spread of compulsory elementary education. This Government have been able to find money for things which they are keen about and I hope Government will see that compulsory elementary education is more rapidly introduced in all parts of the country. Conditions are not any the better with regard to sanitary condition of the villages, rural water-supply, medical relief and so many other essential needs. So a consistent and definite plan has to be laid out and worked up if Government want to really benefit the people."

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday, the 25th February 1935.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 692 asked by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd February 1935, page 236 *supra*.]

Statement.

Serial number and name of post.	Number of Muhammadan and scheduled classes candidates required according to the communal rule.		Number of Muhammadan and scheduled classes candidates actually selected.	
	Muhammadan.	Scheduled.	Muhammadan.	Scheduled.
1 Deputy Superintendent of Police	..	1	..	..
2 Second-class Health Officer (Madras Public Health Subordinate Service) ..	3	1	..	..
3 Veterinary Assistant Surgeon (Madras Veterinary Subordinate Service)	8	5	8	1
4 Sub-Assistant Surgeon (Women) (Madras Medical Subordinate Service) ..	1	1	..	..
5 Upper Subordinate (Madras Agricultural Subordinate Service)	6	5	1	..
6 Junior Inspector (Madras Co-operative Subordinate Service)	* 29	19	* 32	6
7 Sub-Inspector (Madras Excise Subordinate Service) ..	6	4	6	2
8 Mechanic (Madras Industries Subordinate Service) ..	1	..	..	..
9 Sub-Assistant Inspectress of Schools (Madras Educational Subordinate Service) ..	1	1	..	..
10 Typist and steno-typist (Madras Ministerial Service).	† 16	† 8	1	..
11 Women clerks (Madras Ministerial Service)	1	..	..	..
12 Clerks (Madras Ministerial Service)	† 63	† 32	10	..

* More candidates than the required number were selected to meet the deficiency under scheduled classes as provided in the rule of communal rotation.

† If the turns lost to these communities in the previous years for want of qualified and suitable candidates are included, the figures will be—

	Muhammadans.	Scheduled classes.
Typists and steno-typists	55	27
Clerks	260	192

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 693 asked by Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd February 1935, page 237 supra.]

Minutes of the meeting of the Provincial Marketing Board held at 2-30 p.m. on Friday, the 16th November 1934.

PRESENT:

Mr. S. V. RAMAMURTI (*Chairman*).
Mr. T. AUSTIN.
Mr. V. RAMAKRISHNA.
Mr. C. TADULINGA MUDALIYAR.
Mr. K. GOPALAKRISHNA RAJU (*Secretary*).

Subject 1—Note on the constitution of the Marketing Board and the appointment of the Provincial Marketing Staff.—Noted.

Subject 2—Report of the Special Officer on Rice Trade Enquiry in the Presidency.—The Board generally endorses the recommendations of the Special Officer. In particular it would draw the attention of the Government to the urgent need for taking immediate action as regards the prohibition of imports of foreign rice or the levy of a heavy duty thereon, the imposition of a quota on the imports of rice from Burma and the reduction of railway freights to a reasonable proportion of the value of the produce transported.

The Board recommends that the Madras Government may request the Government of India to consult them before the negotiations with Burma reported in the Press are concluded as Madras is vitally interested in rice trade between Burma and India.

The Board would also suggest that the opening of more ports from which rice could be exported might be investigated by the Government.

The Marketing Officer is requested to examine how the rice produced in the Presidency might best be distributed so that on the basis of a planned distribution the railway companies might be further addressed to adjust freights so as to help the flow of produce along planned lines.

The Marketing Officer should investigate the possibility of giving loans through co-operative societies for cultivation expenses and as advances on produce without a specific money limit for an individual.

Subject 3—Institution of local market surveys—Preliminary steps like formation of nucleus library and collection of relevant material and methods of procedure, and preparation of crop and stock atlas, preparation of suitable questionnaires for each of the crops and for each class of persons concerned in the marketing of the produce, etc.—Noted.

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Subject 4—Proposals for rules to be made by the Local Government under section 7 of Act XV of 1934 (*Act to regulate the price of sugar-cane intended for use in sugar factories*).—The proposed rules are recommended to the Government. It is suggested that an informal conference of factory owners and growers may be called to consider the rules before they are passed.

Subject 5—Programme of work of the Provincial Marketing Officer in the next three months.—Programme is approved. The Provincial Marketing Officer will please send copies of his monthly report to the other members of the Board.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Monday, the 25th February 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.
Venkata Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C.A.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Maharaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Nayudu, Diwan Bahadur B.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Vacancy of the post of Professor of Physics, Queen Mary's College, Madras.

* 698 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the post of the Physics Professor in the Queen Mary's College, Madras, is vacant;

(*b*) if so, since how long is the said post kept vacant and for what reasons; and

(*c*) when the Government propose to fill up the vacancy?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The post which is included in the Madras Educational Service has been held in abeyance since the year 1929 for want of a suitable woman candidate. The duties of the post are being performed by a member of the Madras Educational Subordinate Service, Men's Branch.

(*c*) The question of filling the Madras Educational Service post will be considered when a suitable candidate becomes available and the finances of the Government improve.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, what are the qualifications of a suitable candidate for this appointment?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot say off-hand, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know what exactly Government mean by saying at one and the same time that a suitable candidate was not available and that when the finances of the Government improve they would consider the question of appointment. Does that mean that if a suitable candidate is available now, Government will not make the appointment?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The question was recently examined and there were two reasons for not making the appointment; one was the financial condition of the Government and the other was that a suitable candidate was not available."

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether a suitable candidate is not available even now?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"As I have already stated, the question was recently examined and it is not time yet for a further examination of the question."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know, Sir, whether the possession of a first-class honours degree by a candidate will be considered a suitable qualification for appointment to this post?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot say that off-hand without going into the papers."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether this appointment should be filled up only by candidates from the Madras Educational Service, and if there are qualified people in the Subordinate Service, why they should not be promoted at least as lecturers, though not as professors?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"If there are people in the Subordinate Service with such good qualifications, they will certainly be promoted."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, what steps have been taken to find out whether suitable candidates are available or not?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"At the time the question was examined, an advertisement was issued by the Services Commission for the post of Physics Assistant Lecturer—not to this particular post. All the available candidates applied and when these applications were examined it was found that none of them was qualified."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the post of Lecturer in Physics has been permanently sanctioned and attached to this college?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether the Hon. the Minister is aware that, on account of the fact that the advertisement referred only to the appointment of a Physics Lecturer and not of a professor, suitable and qualified candidates refused to apply for the post?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I am not aware that qualified candidates refused to apply. I think it is very unlikely."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister, when the post of Physics Lecturer has been permanently sanctioned and how the question of finance interferes with making the appointment?"

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The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It is a post that has been kept in abeyance and when it is sought to revive it, the financial condition of the Government is a relevant consideration."

Pay of Manual Training Instructors (Carpentry) employed in Secondary Schools.

* 699 *Q.*—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to place on the table of this House a copy of the orders sanctioning the various scales for Manual Training Instructors (Carpentry) from time to time together with the qualifications required of them at every stage, ever since the introduction of manual training in secondary schools?

A.—A copy [a] of the different Government Orders on the subject is placed on the table of the House.

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" May I know, Sir, whether the scales of pay of the existing incumbents, especially Manual Training Instructors, will continue to be the same or are they going to be affected by the new scales of pay?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice, Sir."

Industries

Circular of the Government of India regarding the All-India Village Industries Association.

* 700 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a copy of the Government of India's circular regarding the All-India Village Industries Association;

(*b*) whether this Government have communicated to the Government of India any opinion on the circular;

(*c*) whether this Government agree with the views of the Government of India as expressed in the circular referred to;

(*d*) whether the Government propose to issue circulars on similar lines to the concerned officers of this Presidency; and

(*e*) whether the circular will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) This Government are in general agreement with the views of the Government of India.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 388–391 infra.

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(*d*) The Government have already issued such instructions as they considered necessary and they are confidential.

(*e*) No; it is confidential.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know, Sir, in view of the statement made by the Home Member in the Legislative Assembly, whether the Government of Madras are going to revise that circular which was issued confidentially?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"I cannot say."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India have subsequently sent another communication to this Government revising its view on the subject?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"I am not aware of it."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"Arising out of the answer to clause (*c*) of the question, may I know how far this Government is in general agreement with the views of the Government of India in this matter?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"They are in general agreement. I think that is a sufficient answer."

Agriculture

Report on the working of the Commercial Crops Markets Act at Tiruppur.

* 701 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any report about the working of the Commercial Crops Markets Act at Tiruppur;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to extend it to any other district; if so, where; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to include any more crops under the Act; if so, what they are and, if not, why not?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Act has not yet been brought into force as draft rules under the Act are under examination and have not issued.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know, Sir, why Government have not taken any steps to frame the rules, even though it is nearly 1½ years since the Act was passed?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"The draft rules are under the consideration of Government."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know, Sir, how long they will take to pass the draft?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"I hope it will be done soon."

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Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I know whether there is no urgency in the opinion of the Government for giving effect to this Act?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"Government have every reason to believe that matters would be expedited."

Appointment of upper subordinates in the Agricultural department from among candidates belonging to agriculturists classes.

* 702 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many candidates (communitywar) have been selected in each year since 1930 from each district for the appointment of upper subordinates in the Agricultural department;

(*b*) how many have applied for selection in each year (communitywar list may be furnished);

(*c*) whether any special preference is given to those hailing from professional agriculturist communities such as Vellalas, Padayachis, etc.; and

(*d*) on what definite principles the selections for appointment are made?

A.—(*a*) The Madras Services Commission commenced to select candidates for appointment to these posts in 1931. A statement[a] showing the number of candidates by communities from each district selected by the Commission during 1931–35 is appended.

(*b*) A statement [a] is appended.

(*c*) & (*d*) In the selection of candidates for appointment, the Commission is guided by the provisions of section 10 of the Madras Services Commission Act, 1929, and rules 2, 4 and 4-A of the Statutory Rules for the Madras Agricultural Subordinate Service which prescribe the qualifications for these posts. The candidates selected are mainly from those who have passed out of the Agricultural College and in the matter of admissions to the College, preference is given to sons of agriculturists as the main object of the College is to give scientific and practical training to those who intend to make agriculture their main profession.

Registration

Proposal, if any, to increase the number of registration offices.

* 703 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the net saving in the Registration department by removing clerks after the introduction of the photo system in 1934–35;

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 391–392 infra.

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(b) whether it is proposed to increase the number of—

(i) District Registrars' offices;

(ii) Sub-Registrars' offices in the current year; and

(c) if so, where the new offices are intended to be opened?

A.—(a) The Government have not the information.

(b) No.

(c) The question does not arise.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—" May I request the Government to find out the net saving as a result of this system?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I will consider the hon. Member's suggestion."

Veterinary

Proposal to recruit a European to the post of Professor of Pathology, Madras Veterinary College.

* 703-A *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: *Will the Hon. the Minister for* Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are proposing to recruit a European candidate from England on contract basis to fill up the post of Professor of Pathology, at the Madras Veterinary College;

(b) whether this post was held till recently by an Indian officer;

(c) whether there are not already in the department suitable candidates who can be appointed to the post without extra expenditure; and

(d) if so, whether this recruitment from abroad on high salary is necessary?

A.—(a) A proposal that a suitable and experienced officer should be obtained on contract has been made and is under the consideration of Government.

(b) Yes.

(c) & (d) The officers in the department though quite competent in their own subjects have not got the requisite training in, and experience of, this important subject.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, whether this post, even when it fell vacant for even fairly long periods in the past was not filled up without any loss of efficiency by the existing staff?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I have no information, Sir."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know from the Hon. the Minister whether there are not persons in the department who have worked under the late Mr. Krishnamurti Ayyar as his assistants?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" It is quite possible some persons might have worked under him."

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Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether there are no people holding foreign degrees and post-graduate degrees quite competent to fill the post? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" According to my information there is not one who is qualified to fill the post."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he will keep in mind the prior claims of Indians when he makes the appointment to this post? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" It is not a racial question."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Will the Government recognize the fact that this post was filled by a competent Indian already? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Mr. Krishnamurti Ayyar was Professor of Pathology and after he died there was no one competent to fill his place."

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether there are no Indians in the Veterinary Service, if not in this province at least in other provinces, who are competent to fill the post? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" There may be, but I am not aware of it."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state the qualifications to be possessed by the European officer suggested by the Director of Veterinary Services? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" That he should be an M.R.C.V.S. and in addition to that he must hold B.Sc. degree or any other degree equivalent to that and must have also undergone laboratory training in the subject."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know whether the Government have not considered the advisability of advertising for the post in the other provinces of India and not only in this province? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" If candidates are available in India, I believe preference will be given to them."

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—" May I know, Sir, when Government propose to advertise for this post next? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" They have not as yet advertised for it."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that there are one or two persons possessing the M.R.C.V.S. qualification now in the department? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" It might be, but they may not have the requisite training and experience to teach the subject."

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Local Self-Government

Progress of the proposals in re *the bifurcation of the District Boards of Chingleput, North Arcot, Guntur and Vizagapatam.*

* 704 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the proposal to bifurcate the District Boards of Chingleput, North Arcot, Guntur and Vizagapatam is; and

(*b*) when it is likely to be brought into effect?

A.—(*a*) The proposal is still under consideration.

(*b*) It cannot be stated definitely when the Government will pass orders.

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether orders relating to the bifurcation of all the four districts will be passed at one and the same time or at different times? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I cannot understand the hon. Member's question. As I have already stated, I cannot guarantee when orders will be passed or whether they will be passed for all the districts together. I can only say that each question will be dealt with on its merits."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is the financial position of the district boards or it is the line of demarcation that is under the consideration of the Government? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Apart from the question of finance, the actual line of demarcation and so many other questions have to be considered."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know, Sir, whether Government have taken up the question of bifurcating all the district boards? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" They have taken up the question of examining the cases of district boards, whether it is desirable or possible to bifurcate them."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I know, Sir, whether Government have decided to bifurcate these district boards? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I have repeatedly stated on the floor of this House that Government are considering the question of bifurcation; if they have decided, then there is nothing to consider."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister, which the districts are that Government are considering? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I would refer the hon. Member to the printed questions and answers."

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Procedure regulating the appointment of District Board Engineers.

* 705 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any list is maintained in the matter of selecting men for new appointments as District Board Engineers;

(*b*) whether a copy of it will be placed on the table;

(*c*) on what principles the list is prepared and appointments are made;

(*d*) how many in the list are persons already employed under local bodies, and what the service and qualifications of each are;

(*e*) how many new appointments of District Board Engineers were made in each year since 1930; and

(*f*) who the persons appointed are, what the qualifications, previous service, if any, and previous employment, if any, of each are?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) Selection for admission to the Madras District Board Engineering Service is made by the Madras Services Commission in accordance with the rules framed by the Government for recruitment to the service and published in Notification Nos. 57 and 131 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette,* dated the 3rd April 1934 and 10th July 1934, respectively. A list [a] of the candidates selected by the Commission in 1932 is appended.

(*d*), (*e*) & (*f*) A statement [a] is annexed.

Revision of the scale of pay of the establishment of local boards and municipalities.

* 706 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House the Government Orders issued prescribing scales of pay to medical, public health and secondary education staff in local boards and municipalities;

(*b*) whether the scales proposed affect the present incumbents of the various staff;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Government have since issued orders proposing the grant of personal allowance for those affected by the present Government Orders;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the Government have instructed local boards and municipal councils to give one month's notice to the employees whose pay (in medical establishment) exceeds the scale fixed;

(*e*) if so, why the Government propose to give personal allowance to those affected by the enforcement of the new scale;

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[a] Printed as Appendix-III on pages 393–394 infra.

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(*f*) whether the Government have followed the same procedure in the case of taluk board servants absorbed in the district board's service;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that the past service of the absorbed servants of taluk boards is taken into account for leave;

(*h*) if so, why the Government have not ordered the grant of personal allowance to such servants alone whose services have not been interrupted; and

(*i*) whether the Government now propose to grant personal allowance to ex-taluk board clerks absorbed in district boards' services?

A.—(*a*) Copies of Government Orders relating to Medical and Public Health establishments have already been laid on the table of the House in answer to questions Nos. 534 and 554. G.O. No. 4619,[a] L. & M., dated the 20th October 1934, relating to secondary education staff is now placed on the table.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The Government have since undertaken to consider the question of the grant of personal pay in cases where there is real hardship by the application of the new scales to them.

(*f*) No.

(*g*) Such of the ex-taluk board servants as were absorbed in district board establishments in substantive vacancies without any break of service will be eligible to count their past service for purposes of leave.

(*h*) The Government have passed orders in the matter after careful consideration and did not consider the grant of personal allowances justified.

(*i*) No.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"May I know, Sir, whether there is going to be a cut in pay even in respect of new scales?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"It would be considered by the various local authorities concerned."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"Am I to understand that Government want to have cut in the salaries even under the new scales of pay?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"I never said that the cut should continue. What I stated was that the authority which imposed the cut should consider the question of its removal."

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 394–395 infra.

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Personal pay to the establishment of Secondary schools under local bodies.

* 707 *Q.*—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) from how many local bodies the Government could obtain necessary information relating to G.O. No. 5025, L. & M., dated 20th November 1934, so far; and

(*b*) whether any orders have been passed by the Government in the case of local bodies from whom information was received?

A.—(*a*) From all local bodies which have secondary schools under their control.

(*b*) Yes. Orders have so far issued approving the grant of personal pay in respect of the secondary school staff of the district boards of Madura, Kurnool, Cuddapah and Chittoor and in ten municipalities.

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—"Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to call for the information from the districts which have not sent the information?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"We have already issued urgent reminders. If necessary, telegraphic reminders will be sent."

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"May I know, Sir, if there are any, and if so, how many cases where personal pay has been disallowed?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There may be one or two cases. I cannot without further examination give the exact number."

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"In view of the exceptionally small number of cases, will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of passing a general order directing that personal pay should be allowed in all cases reserving the right with Government to revise cases of unduly accelerated promotion and thus avoid inconvenience and anxiety to the persons concerned?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I will only consider cases of accelerated promotion, but in other cases personal pay has to be granted."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, why the matter is pending with regard to the other districts?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"We are awaiting replies."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know whether the sanction of personal pay is with retrospective effect?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Of course, yes."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, which of the municipalities are referred to in the answer?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I must ask for notice of the question."

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Government Order, if any, directing local bodies to consult the Principal, Indian Medical School, before appointing Homeopathic medical practitioners.

* 708 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any Government Order directing the local bodies to consult the Principal, Indian Medical School, before they appoint Homeopathic medical practitioners; and

(*b*) if so, whether he would be pleased to place it on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The attention of the Hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 1823, P.H., dated the 30th July 1934, published with Notifications Nos. 1048 and 1049 in Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 21st August 1934, amending G.O. No. 3600, L. & M., dated the 8th September 1932, published with Notification No. 1407, dated the 8th September 1932, in Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 20th September 1932.

Pay of Homeopathic medical practitioners employed by local boards and municipalities.

* 709 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any scale of pay has been fixed for Homeopathic medical practitioners, when they are employed by local boards or municipalities; and

(*b*) if there is any Government Order on the point, whether it will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The attention of the Hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 2403, P.H., dated the 15th October 1934, laid on the table of the house with reference to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of Legislative Council Question No. 534 answered at the meeting held on 25th January 1935.

Public Health

Additional accommodation for tuberculosis patients in the Madras City.

* 710 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there are any proposals before the Government to find out more accommodation for tuberculosis patients in or outside the Madras City and, if so, what they are?

A.—No.

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Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" As there is want of accommodation in the present Tuberculosis Institute, will Government be pleased either to extend the accommodation or subsidise any private institution, if there are any? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" In the present state of the finances of the Government, it will not be possible to extend the accommodation; but if any deserving cases of grants to private institutions are received by Government, they will be considered on their merits."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware of the fact that the present Institute is located in the most populous part of the City, in Royapettah, and whether in the interests of public health it should be allowed to continue there, instead of shifting it to some other place? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I believe alternative proposals were considered in the past. Just at present, I do not think Government will be in a position to provide separate accommodation."

11-15 a.m. Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government are now considering the proposal of taking over the hospital at Tambaram? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" No, Sir. So far as I am aware there is no such proposal."

Leper problem in the City.

* 711 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that vagrant lepers are everywhere seen in the city and are a menace to it; and

(*b*) whether there are any proposals before the Government to arrange for their voluntary segregation?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Government will investigate into the affair in the interests of the City of Madras and take steps to mitigate the leper trouble? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I am afraid it depends on the financial position of the Province and unless there is an improvement in the financial position, it may not be possible."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Do the Government realize that it is part of the duty of the Government to make some provision for the segregation of these lepers from the City? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"They have been making efforts for the amelioration of the condition of the lepers and they realize that it is their duty; but they will have to go according to the availability of funds."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"The question is 'whether the Government are aware that vagrant lepers are everywhere seen in the City and are a menace to it,' and the answer is 'no.' I should like to know whether the Hon. Minister and the Government are not aware of the fact that there are lepers in the City."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"That reply is in regard to that part of the question which says that 'vagrant lepers are everywhere seen in the City.' They are not everywhere in the City and hence the answer 'no'."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Hon. the Minister advice the Madras Corporation to take necessary steps in the direction suggested?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have no objection."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know, Sir, what practical steps the Government have at all taken so far in the matter?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"They have been subsidising a number of institutions for the treatment and segregation of lepers and they have also started leper clinics in Government hospitals."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the Corporation of Madras has already taken steps in the direction and are dealing with it?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Yes."

Irrigation

Proposal, if any, to take up the Kumuduvati, Dosigallu and Hagari projects in the Anantapur district.

* 712 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government of India have been addressed regarding the Tungabhadra project;

(*b*) pending the Tungabhadra project, whether any smaller irrigation works for the Ceded districts, especially in Anantapur district, are proposed to be started;

(*c*) if so, what they are; and

(*d*) whether the Kumuduvati project and Dosigallu and Hagari projects in Anantapur district are to be taken up in 1935–36 and whether allotments are made for them in the Budget Estimates for 1935–36?

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A.—(*a*) The Government of India have been addressed to appoint an Inter-State Commission to settle the question of the utilization to the best benefit of the country at large of the waters of the Tungabhadra and its tributaries.

(*b*) & (*c*) No.

(*d*) It is proposed to provide funds for the further investigation of the Penner-Kumuduvati Project in the next year's budget.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May I know why the Dosigallu and Hagari Projects are not considered now?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Because, Sir, the Government have to carry on with the Tungabhadra Project."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"Sir, now that the Tungabhadra Project is not likely to take any definite shape in the very near future, cannot the Government consider the desirability of investigating minor projects, so that when the project is accomplished they can link them up with the Tungabhadra Project?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I fear I cannot agree to that proposition."

Delay in the submission of the report of the committee appointed to consider the failure of freshes in the river Palar.

* 713 *Q*.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the committee appointed to report on the causes of the failure of freshes in the river Palar in North Arcot and Chingleput districts has concluded its deliberations and issued a final report;

(*b*) if not, what the cause is for the delay in issuing the final report;

(*c*) when the committee was appointed and how many times it met;

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table copy of the proceedings of the committee and its report, if any, on the table;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the committee called for certain additional information and whether the information has been furnished; when the information was called for; and

(*f*) if not, why the information was not furnished and the cause for the delay?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*e*) & (*f*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 748 on 9th March 1934. The Mysore Government have not yet furnished the statistics. They have been recently reminded. The

report submitted by the Palar Irrigation Committee was only a preliminary report, and the question of calling a further meeting of the Committee will be considered after the information called for from the Mysore Government is received.

(c) The Committee was appointed in February 1931. Information as to the number of times it met is not readily available.

(d) The question will be considered after the Committee has submitted its final report.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the fact that the statistics have not been obtained from the Mysore Darbar, will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to consider the question of deputing an Engineer or an Assistant Engineer to collect the statistics necessary to enable the Committee to conclude its labours?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I am afraid, I cannot undertake to do that."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the hon. Member whether he does not feel that the four years that have elapsed since the calling for the information from Mysore is a long time, and that the absence of the information called for, has prevented the Committee from concluding its labours?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I am afraid I cannot control the Mysore Government."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I ask, Sir, what steps the Government propose to take for the unnecessary delay caused by the Mysore Darbar in furnishing us with the statistics?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Ask them to hurry up."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know when the preliminary report was submitted by the Committee?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I think some time in 1931. I am not sure of the exact date."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Are the Government aware that the ryots under the Palar system in the North Arcot and Chingleput districts feel that they have been prejudicially affected by reason of the extension of certain irrigation works in Mysore territories?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"That, Sir, is the allegation."

Representations for the revival of the Ghiriar Project in Tinnevelly.

* 714 *Q.*—Mr. I. C. ISWARAN PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any memorial and other representations have been received by the Government for the revival of the Ghiriar Project in

the Tinnevelly district and the reopening of negotiations with the Travancore Darbar in respect of the same; and

(*b*) whether any, and, if so, what orders have been passed in respect of the same?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government have addressed the Agent to the Governor-General, Trivandrum, on the subject.

Mr. I. C. ISWARAN PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, when the Agent to the Governor-General, Trivandrum, was addressed? "

The Hon. Mr C. A. SOUTER:—" Quite recently."

Land Revenue Administration

Amount of land revenue collected by coercive processes and by sale of lands at public auction.

* 715 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of land revenue assessment collected by coercive processes in each district during each of the last six years; and

(*b*) the number of lands sold by public auction for arrears of assessment and the amount realized in each district during each of the last six years?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information other than that contained in statement No. 12, annexed to the annual report on the settlement of land revenue, which is published.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, if during the last six years, there has been an increase from year to year in the arrears of assessment and in the number of lands sold by public auction for realizing such arrears? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" I think the hon. Member will get that information from the statement mentioned in the answer."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I know whether the statement referred to in the answer contains full information."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" It is the fullest information that the Government possess."

Picking of pepper in Kasaragod taluk by the village officers.

* 716 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether village officers have been ordered to pick the pepper in pepper plantations in Kasaragod taluk and keep it in their custody and, if so, the reasons for doing so?

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A.—The pepper crop on certain lands in the Kumari villages of the Kasaragod taluk, South Kanara district, was distrained for the collection of resurvey charges. The Government, on receipt of a representation from the Kasaragod Malayalee Landholders' Association, directed that the sale of the crops distrained should be deferred. The Government subsequently passed orders on 9th February 1935, directing that the collection of resurvey charges in these villages should be spread over a period of three years and that the amount due each year should be collected in instalments along with each land revenue kist.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" It is said in the answer that the Government have directed that the sale of crops distrained should be deferred. May I know what has happened subsequently? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" I presume it has been deferred."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know, Sir, whether the distrained crops were returned to the owners or whether they were sold away subsequently? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" I have no information, Sir."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" How do the Government expect the payment of resurvey charges if they keep all their crop with them, and prevent the ryots from selling their produce? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" Just as they pay the assessments."

Alleged failure of crops in certain parts of the Guntur district.

* 717 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any report from the Collector about the failure of crops in the Vinukonda, Palnad, Sattenapalle, Ongole and Bapatla taluks; if so, what it is; and

(*b*) if not, whether they will call for the same and lay it on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Government do not consider it necessary to call for a special report.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari :—" In view of the information contained in season reports appearing from time to time in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, will the Hon. the Revenue Member call for a special report from the Collector? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" I am certain that, if the Collector thinks that a special report should be sent, he will send it."

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Failure of crops in Kollegal.

* 718 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations from the ryots of Kollegal have been received by the Government regarding total failure of crops and urging for postponement of collection pending orders on remission;

(*b*) if so, what orders, if any, have been passed by the Government on the petition of the ryots;

(*c*) whether the Government have examined and verified the allegation that the official estimates are misleading and incorrect in regard to the failure of crops in Kollegal; and

(*d*) if so, what the result of such investigation is, and whether the facts will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have received on 18th February 1935 a copy of the resolutions on the subject passed at a meeting convened by the Swadesha Dharma Rakshini Sabha, Kollegal, on 14th February 1935. The paper has been transferred to the Board of Revenue.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know whether apart from transmitting the petition to the Board of Revenne, the Government propose to take any further action in the matter?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"It all depends on the report the Collector makes. It was only on the 14th February that the representation was received and it was sent immediately."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"In view of the fact that the collections are going on briskly, will not the Government expedite their orders?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"I am very glad to hear that the collections are going on briskly."

Representations from the inamdars of Anantapur district praying for seasonal remissions.

* 719 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Collector of Anantapur or the Government received any representations from the owners of inam lands and inam villages of Anantapur district requesting seasonal remissions;

(*b*) if so, how the matter has been dealt with; and

(*c*) whether there is anything in the terms of sanads or inam title-deeds which would preclude the grant of seasonal remissions to the owners thereof, so as to make any difference between pattadars and inamdars in the Ceded districts?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have not received any such representations. They have no information whether any have been received by the Collector.

(*c*) The Government have no information as to the terms of the sanads or inam title deeds issued in the Ceded districts.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether any representation has since been received, after the answer has been given?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Yes, Sir. My Secretary says it has been received."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Do not the Government feel that the inamdars also are deserving of some help at their hands?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"Their case has to be dealt with under Board's Standing Order No. 14."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"May I know whether that Board's Standing Order has been applied in these recent cases?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I have no objection to giving the inamdars concession under Board's Standing Order No. 14."

Basis for granting seasonal remissions to owners of inam lands in ryotwari villages.

* 720 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether seasonal remissions are granted to owners of inam lands in ryotwari villages; and, if so, under what conditions and circumstances;

(*b*) in cases in which quit-rent or jodi is less than the rate of assessment, what the conditions are which would justify seasonal remissions;

(*c*) whether such concessions, if any, extend to whole inam villages in the Ceded districts; and

(*d*) whether there are any rules on the subject and whether the Government would be pleased to lay them on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 6 of Board's Standing Order No. 14.

(*c*) & (*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*c*) of Legislative Council Question No. 719.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"It is stated in paragraph 6 of Board's Standing Order No. 14, that concessions to other minor inams will be allowed only in special cases for which special reasons must be given by the Collector. Will the Hon. the Revenue Member consider the desirability of placing the proceedings of the Board referred to in the Board's Standing Order on the table of the House?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I will look into the matter."

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Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" In view of the statement of the Collector that the rainfall was ' below the average and was practically of no benefit to the crops and that the season has admittedly not been favourable to the dry crops and the outturn of the early dry crops harvested was only 4 to 7 annas—nearer 4 than 7—in all the taluks except Cheyyar and Wandiwash,' will the Hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to state whether any concessions will be given? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" The Collector's own statement is that he does not think any particular measures are required."

Representations for the remission of the assessment on second crops raised by means of deep river-bed channels in certain villages in the Anantapur district.

* 721 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations have been made to the Collector of Anantapur, the Board of Revenue and to the Government, to the effect that the assessment for raising the second crop by means of the deep river-bed channels in the villages of Rachepalle, Nidhanavada, Anandaraopeta, Tarimela, Kallamadi, Illur, Kallur and Agraharam of Anantapur taluk, should be completely remitted under the special circumstances specified therein; and

(*b*) if so, what has been done in the matter?

A.—(*a*) A memorial on the subject was received by the Government.

(*b*) The memorial was transferred to the Board of Revenue for disposal.

Measures for the relief of the cultivators and labourers affected by unfavourable seasonal conditions in the North Arcot district.

* 722 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to make a statement of the seasonal conditions this year in North Arcot district and the measures the Government have taken and intend to take for providing relief to the cultivators and labourers affected by the unfavourable conditions in the district?

A.—An extract[a] from the report of the Collector of North Arcot, dated 9th February 1935, is annexed. The Government do not consider that any special relief is necessary.

Provision of facilities for the supply of water in Anantapur district.

* 723 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what, if any, are the village works and irrigation works and works for improvement of drinking-water facilities in the Anantapur

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 395–397 infra.

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district, which have been included in the famine programme or which are proposed to be included in the famine programme;

(b) whether it was brought to the notice of the Collector and the Government that some villagers in Anantapur district have to go 2 to 3 miles for getting water for men and animals; and

(c) whether any private aided works have been started or are proposed to be started for the amelioration of the residents of such villages?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 644 which gives particulars as to the irrigation works included in the famine relief programme. The Government have no information, regarding the other classes of works mentioned by the hon. Member.

(b) Yes. Memorials have beeen received from the residents of Penukonda town and have been transferred to the Board of Revenue.

(c) The Government have no information.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—"With regard to clause (c) of the question, may I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to call for information regarding the subject and give instructions to start village works?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I understand the hon. Member is referring to private aided works. I cannot see what benefit it would be for Government getting information regarding them and giving instructions to start them."

Admissibility of travelling allowances to village officers and menials.

*724 Q.—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any districts where village officers and menials are given travelling allowance if they travel more than 5 miles; and

(b) if so, what the special reasons are for giving travelling allowance in those districts alone?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to rule 12 of the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules and article 50 of the Special Funds Code which apply to all the districts in the Presidency.

Travelling allowance is also paid to the village officers and menials of the Kottur and Pongaliyur villages in the Pollachi taluk, Coimbatore district, when they visit the estates on the disreserved portions of the Anamalais on duty, as the estates are far from their headquarters and the cost of the journeys which have to be performed on motor buses is such as cannot be met from their pockets.

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Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" What is the distance the Government want a village officer to travel by bus or train without being given travelling allowance? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" I do not want them to do it; I would like them if possible to avoid it."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I know, Sir, whether the village officers are not allowed any travelling allowances for journeys within a radius of five miles under the Travelling Allowance Rules? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" That depends upon the purpose of the journey. For certain journeys they are allowed and for others they are not allowed travelling allowance. The Government do not propose to alter those rules."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I enquire whether the village officers are not generally allowed travelling allowance for their journeys? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" They are not generally, Sir."

Measures for the prevention of cattle mortality in Anantapur district.

* 725 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the steps the Government have taken to prevent abnormal mortality among cattle in Anantapur district during the current year?

A.—All the departmental reserves in the district have been thrown open for free grazing. The Government have also sanctioned a scheme for the collection and sale, at normal prices, of hill grass for use as fodder.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" May I know whether milch cattle and plough bulls are being provided for? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" Recently we had a report from the Board of Revenue. They have issued instructions to the Collectors that they should grant fodder concessions for the milch cattle as well as for plough bulls."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" May I know, Sir, whether the quantity of fodder has been raised according to the number of cattle owned by an individual? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" I think that is the case."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Sir, it has been stated in the reply that all the departmental reserves have been thrown open. May I know if the panchayat forests have also been thrown open? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" I fear that must depend on the panchayat authorities."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Does it not also depend on the Government's insisting on their lease amount being paid to them in full? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" I do not think it follows, Sir."

Commerce

Duty imposed by the Nizam's Government on the importation of rice.

* 726 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any information from the Nizam's Government regarding the reduction of the duty on rice as per the agreement with the Madras Government;

(*b*) if so, what it is; and

(*c*) if not, what steps the Government have taken to get the duty on rice reduced?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) As a result of the representations made, His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government have reduced the duty to the limit permissible under the commercial treaty.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I know, Sir, if the Madras Government have realized the excess collections made by the Nizam's Government from this Presidency? "

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—" No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know from the Hon. the Finance Member whether the Madras Government imposed any corresponding duty on produce imported from the Nizam's Dominions and if not why not? "

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know the limits permitted under the commercial treaty? "

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—" I must ask for notice. I do not remember it at the moment."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask the Hon. the Finance Member whether in regard to certain articles customs duties are levied at rates more than the rates permitted by the commercial treaty, i.e., 5 per cent? "

The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES:—" I have stated that there was a reduction in the case of rice. I do not know about the other articles. Notice."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know what the rate of duty is on rice? "

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The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—" 5 per cent *ad valorem*, as Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar said, so far as I recollect."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" May I ask the Hon. the Finance Member what the rates were prior to the representations made by this Government and those after the representations were made?"

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—" I think, Sir, subject to correction, the rate perscribed is 5 per cent *ad valorem*."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" Will the Hon. Member be pleased to collect the information called for in the various questions and place the same on the table of the House?"

The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—" I think there is no necessity to do so."

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Forest Panchayats

Proposal, if any, for the resumption of control by Government of forests under the management of panchayats.

727 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total area of forest under the control of forest panchayats is;

(*b*) what the total area that has been taken over by the Government from the forest panchayats is; and

(*c*) whether there is any proposal to resume control over the forests that are now under the control of forest panchayats?

A.—(*a*) 3,420·41 square miles in 1933–34.

(*b*) The Government have not the information. They have called for it.

(*c*) The Government know of no such proposal.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR 1935-36—*cont.*

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not think I need repeat on this occasion my plea that there is not much use in carrying on a discussion for three days and calling it a general discussion of the Budget. I may be permitted to suggest once again for the consideration of the Leader of the House and the Leaders of the various parties including the one to which I belong, to reconsider the whole situation and devise measures for the inclusion of these three days also in the eleven or twelve days that are allotted by His Excellency the Governor for the detailed discussion and the voting of demands. I do

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not think, Sir, it is really possible to make even a cursory survey of the revenue or the expenditure position of the Government within 10 minutes or 15 minutes that is allowed to any single member.

" It is very difficult, Sir, to make any observations that would have any reaction on the Treasury benches within these ten minutes. I would therefore content myself with a few observations. Although there has been a steady increase of revenues during the last fourteen years and there has also been an increase of expenditure during that period, I would like to confine myself only to the period of the last five years during which the Finance Member has been in charge of the finances of this Province. Taking the last five or six years I might say that this seems to be the fifth year in which the Finance Member has been able to present the budget with a surplus. The last budget with a deficit was in 1930–31; but since then the budget has always been a surplus budget. No doubt, Sir, taking the year for which the accounts have been closed the income has fallen from 1,847 lakhs to 1,549 and odd lakhs. That is to say nearly 300 lakhs have been lost to the Government. During the same period the expenditure has also gradually fallen not to speak of the fourteen years but during the last five years from 1,726·42 in 1929–30 to 1,548;97 in 1933–34, that is to say nearly 200 lakhs is the difference in expenditure between 1929–30 and 1933–34. That being the case, Sir, it must have been indeed very difficult to balance the falling revenues with the increased expenditure as the Finance Member would like to have it. But also the expenditure, taking these five years, has been steadily decreasing. It is not the case that expenditure has been increased but when the revenues have fallen by 300 lakhs the expenditure has also fallen by about 200 lakhs. But taking the detailed heads of revenue I find, Sir, throughout the decrease has been maintained steadily only in two of the heads of account; revenue has fallen in stamps and registration. No doubt this fall has been due to some reduction in the rate of fees in certain specific cases and not throughout. There has been no reduction in the stamp revenue for the benefit of the poor; but there has been some reduction in the fees charged, under the registration account But I consider, Sir, this should have led the Government to find out what exactly is the position of the general tax-payer to-day. The real index to find out the financial position of the rate-payer should be the revenue that is derived under the heads of stamps and registration. If they had considered these two. then it is to be expected that the Government should have come to the rescue of the tax-payer in these two matters. If the general position of the tax-payer has improved as they would like us to understand, then certainly they could not anticipate any fall in the stamp revenue or registration revenue. But as it is, there has been all these years a steady decrease under these two heads and in the next year for which we budget the same state of affairs is expected to prevail. Taking this position into view, Government should have come forward to afford some relief to the tax-payer. But this budget promises nothing of the kind. Sir, considering the expenditure side there is one thing which is very noticeable.

11-30 a.m.

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [25th February 1935

So far as the education demand is concerned it is very noticeable that the decrease under that head has been very remarkable. From about 270 lakhs and odd it has fallen to about 240 lakhs and odd. That education should be the victim of such a drastic cut in expenditure is not really very admirable. In fact education must be allowed to make faster and faster progress. Instead of that on education seems to have fallen the real brunt of all the economy on the expenditure side. Sir, examining the budget for the last five years there is also another point to be borne in mind. Taking into account all the fourteen years the Hon. the Finance Member would make us understand that the expenditure in the transferred departments has increased far more in proportion to the expenditure in the reserved half. But a careful examination of the figures for the last five years would show that that is not the case. The fall in the expenditure on the transferred side is about 20 per cent whereas in the reserved side it is only less than ten. That merely shows that several of the development departments, the reconstruction departments and the public health departments have suffered seriously to the detriment of the general tax-payer. Then, again, Sir, coming to the balances, I find that the closing balance from year to year decreased. But taking the balances as a whole it is no doubt true that they do not furnish any safe guide to the real financial position of the Province. The closing balance for 1934–35 has been put down at 305·95 lakhs and the opening balance for 1935–36 is that figure. I do not think that this is in any way discouraging. Past experience has shown that even these closing and opening balances have not been accurate figures. Because the closing balance has been put down at a lower figure the opening balance for the succeeding year has been very much ou the increase. The proportion of increase has been in varying grades. On the whole, Sir, I do not think the budget can be called a discouraging budget. Coming to capital and debt transactions, they have no doubt been raising larger and larger sums. In fact Government has been providing sums according to the estimates that are sent to the Finance Department by the other departments. But most of these sums are not spent as they should be. For the next year they have provided hundred and odd lakhs. That is it is less than what was provided for the current year. What has been provided for the current year has not been fully expended. It is necessary that when Government provide such sums they should see that these sums are spent during the year. To the extent to which Government is able to spend money on capital works to that extent the financial position of the tax-payer would be relieved. If larger civil works are not undertaken year after year and money is saved and forms part of the closing balance of future years I do not think the position of the tax-payer would in any way be relieved. What I suggest is if Government, having provided funds, are not going to pump it in circulation amongst those persons who are really to benefit by it then there is utterly no use of providing large funds in the budget under capital and debt heads of civil works. I would suggest, Sir, that Government should see not only that money is provided for in the Budget but also that it is spent

during the year and not saved as hitherto. If need be the Public Works Department must be goaded to spend and not have it as savings for the next year.

" One other thing that I would suggest to the Hon. the Law Member is that time and again in this House demands are made that the registration fees and court fees ought to be reduced so as to reduce the incidence of taxation on the litigant public. I do not know whether Government have come to any decision in the matter. They must have been consulting the High Court. If they have consulted the High Court and come to definite conclusions, the House would like to know what those conclusions are and what steps are going to be taken. I would rather consider there is nothing to be disheartened in the Budget and the Finance Member deserves our congratulations for the surplus Budgets he has presented for the last five years."

Mr. T. NARASA REDDI :—" Mr. President, we are in a very peculiar situation concerning the Central districts. Sir, the position of the Central districts is quite peculiar. In the north the circars and the other districts have been given a number of projects to irrigate their lands and the ryots are kept in a very good position. Similarly, Sir, the south has a number of projects and very recently a big project like the Mettur project has been opened which has been a blessing for the people of the south. But, Sir, we people of the Central districts have been crying for the Tungabhadra project for the last so many years. But year after year we have a Budget which has no bearing whatsoever on the good of the people of the Central districts. Sir, every year we are promised that the project would be executed is in the near future. But every year it is receding further and further back and probably there is no likelihood of this project benefiting the Central districts. Sir, our cry has been a cry in the wilderness. This year we had a small remission and we are placed on a footing just like other districts. Our grievances in the future as well as at present are two-fold. For the last five years our grievance is not only that we had no crops but also there was a low level of price. This double difficulty has caused all the misery to the ryot. The ryot has sold away what he had. The ryot has sold away all his valuables. He has mortgaged all his land and the land has passed into the hands of non-agricultural classes. In the face of these difficulties our ryots are placed on a footing with the other ryots. This ought not to be the attitude of the Government. With regard to the irrigation projects we have in the Central districts a small project working at a gain to the Government. Yet the classification of land under this project is working such a hardship that the water-rate of some of the lands has been Rs. 7 and in the case of others Rs. 5 and in the case of some others Rs. 3. Sir, I would ask the Hon. Member in charge why this unequal distribution of water-rates has been imposed upon the heads of the people. So far as this project is concerned, there 11–
are so proper sluices, and there have been complaints that people are a.m.
not getting water for all their lands. Also there is much more land

which may be brought under irrigation. People have been approaching the Public Works Department every year in vain. No proper sluices have been constructed to irrigate the lands properly. If all the large extent of land which is now left unirrigated is irrigated, the Government will be getting some more revenue. I do not understand why the department is so callous to the demands of the people.

"Another grievance concerning the Central districts is want of proper communications in the shape of good roads. It has been the complaint of Cuddapah, Anantapur and Bellary districts that the roads there are in the most deplorable condition. They are not to be called roads but a number of furrows like those found in tilled land, and such roads are not fit for communication purposes. The grant for roads that has been given to the District Board of Cuddapah is the least grant when compared to the grants given to all other districts, and we have been complaining about it every year, and yet our request has fallen on deaf years. Sir, in future at least the grants for these Central districts may be increased so that the roads may be put in order.

"Another thing concerning the Central districts is the poor representation given to them in the public services. The representation given is so poor that these districts have become the dumping ground for the northerners and southerners. It is not as if there is no educated element in these districts. There are lots of educated men available, but there is no authority to look to the needs of these men. I hope that the authorities concerned will take note of this and see that proper representation is given to the people of the Central districts in all the services."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member in his speech introducing the Budget said on page 9 of his statement—

'The Government of India having declined to accept premature repayment of their loans either from open market borrowings or from our balances, we decided to continue the policy, which had been begun in 1928–29, of applying these balances as far as might be necessary in financing important capital works.'

Well, I ask whether this is a correct policy. Is it because the Government of India declined to accept prepayment of their loans this Government has decided to finance capital works from revenue balances? If so, the Government was wise in not accepting repayment, because they wanted that these revenue balances should be applied for works which will increase the prosperity of the people, and I do not see why we should not finance the capital works out of loan funds. I say this because these works are also for the benefit of posterity and the coming generations also must contribute for these. We have been protesting against this policy of financing capital works from balances year after year. Especially my hon. Friend, Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, and some of us have been protesting against this policy. The Hon. Member may say that the policy has been followed ever since 1928–29. Simply because Sir Thomas Moir has begun this policy, is it any excuse

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or justification for the present Finance Member to continue the same policy? At the time the Hon. Finance Member took charge provincial balances amounted to 4½ crores, and how did these accrued balances disappear? The very fact that we have been having surpluses every year goes to show that the Government has been levying more tax than is necessary to run their business. How are they collecting the tax? They are collecting it by squeezing the ryots, by forcing them not only to sell their jewels and utensils but ultimately also the very land for which they had sacrificed all their other belongings. All that money is spent in financing big capital works of which only the future generations can enjoy the full benefit.

"The Hon. Finance Member goes on further to say, 'if unable to use the money for paying off debt, the next best thing was to employ it in the avoidance of debt.' Neither of this is a practical and sound method of administering the Finance. One is as bad as the other. He says:

> 'Since the end of 1932–33, we have ceased to borrow and from 1928–29 up to the end of 1935–36 we shall have advanced from our balances about Rs. 249 lakhs for remunerative capital expenditure.'

That is to say about three crores. Such large balances are accumulating simply because he has been collecting more money from the people than is necessary; and this money has been spent on capital works so that the people might not grumble when they see such large savings. This money ought to have been utilized not only for giving remissions but also for reducing taxation. I may point out that in 1931–32 they have collected something like Rs. 5·41 lakhs more, in 1932–33 Rs. 77·21 lakhs and in 1933–34 Rs. 6·25 lakhs. Every year there are surpluses; thus they have been collecting more taxes like this even in these years of depression; this is simply killing the goose that lays the golden egg. You may say that if we don't Budget for something more we might have deficit Budgets. Why should you be so much afraid of deficit Budgets, I cannot understand. In Bombay and some other provinces, they have been having deficit Budgets year after year. Have they closed their business and filed a schedule of assets and liabilities? I do not think there is any danger in showing a deficit. Is he afraid of his Government being superseded as some Local Boards are? The Hon. Finance Member says that the policy followed by him was to adjust revenue expenditure to revenue receipts. But I do not see that he has followed the policy. For every year there was a surplus on the revenue side. He further says:

> 'Nothing would have been easier than to have adopted a spendthrift policy; nothing more likely than such a policy to gain a passing popularity, or to win the unthinking applause of those who do not look beyond the convenience of the moment; but also nothing could be more disastrous than such a policy or more detrimental to the fair prospects of the great constitutional experiment so shortly to be inaugurated.'

In this I think he is mistaken. For, he has actually followed a spendthrift policy by spending on luxuries like building offices and residences of officers and paying fat salaries, etc.; he could have very well reduced some of those items of expenditure. I know, Sir, there are so

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many superfluous posts such as the Deputy Directors of Agriculture and so many other deputies, which are all post offices which do not do any real work and which are not of practical use at all. Such posts also he could have abolished and made both ends meet. Instead of that as was pointed out by my Friend, Mr. Langley, he has bled the peasant white. He says he has so ordered the finances as to ensure a favourable start to those who will succeed him. He wants to see that the Government under the coming Reforms does not fail. This reminds me of the story of a miser who found while framing his budget that he had enough to eat for eleven months but nothing for one month. He decided to starve for the first month (laughter), so that he may enjoy during the following eleven months, with what result, you know; he did not survive the first month to enjoy during the remaining eleven months. That is what, I think, is going to happen. If the future Government which will come under the Reforms is going to be given a start, is it by starving our peasants, bleeding them white and ruining them altogether? This seems to be the policy. I do not say that he has not done them with the best of intentions. I do not question his intentions, but I only question his policy. Personally, Sir, I may say that I have received much help from him by way of advice, etc., and so I am much indebted to him. Yet I have to condemn his policy. I should feel sorry to miss him in this Council in future years; because he is a strong man and if his colleagues are as weak as they have been represented to be by some members of the State bark will be sailing like a ship without rudder. I wish him long life and prosperity."

12 noon. * Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am somewhat in a reminiscent mood, and I hope other members of the House will forgive me if they do not agree with some of the sentiments I am giving expression to. As one who has been a member of this Council ever since the Reforms I feel there is a growing apathy in the Council and its work, not only on the part of the members here but on the part of the public as well. What the reasons are and why it is so, I am not going to dilate upon at present. I dare say I shall have opportunities enough hereafter, if I want to, to expatiate on them. At one time I referred to the rather deplorable fact of the unnatural division of functions and responsibilities between the reserved and transferred halves. It is also unfortunate that the Members on the Treasury Bench do not act with a sense of joint responsibility, and that naturally results in several inconveniences. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: At least they act now: the front opposition bench is vacant!) I am going to refer to that. One of the contributory factors for the present state of things is the absence of a healthy, strong and vigorous opposition. If one has been watching the several divisions and speeches that have been made in this Council, one cannot help feeling that several of us have found, somehow or other, to wrong seats in this Council. And when one hears all sorts of rumours in the town that even members of the same party are intriguing against each other and trying to cut the ground under the feet of their friends, i.e., friends in public and enemies in private, one feels that

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he has to hang down his head in shame for the simple reason that persons in responsible position should so far forget what they owe to themselves as to place their private interests above public.

"Being in this mood, you won't expect me to talk high politics. But I wish to refer to one thing and one thing only. It has not been referred to by any of the speakers so far. I am referring to the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act. I find, Sir, my Friend from Coimbatore wants to know how it is a concern of ours. I take it, Sir, that he and I and the other members are not here to look to our personal interests, to better our earnings and emoluments; we are here to do our duty to the public, and especially to those unfortunate sisters, for whose continued degradation all of us are responsible by our culpable indifference and negligence. This Act was passed with the sole object of rescuing these unfortunate girls and giving them their proper place in society. But what has been done so far? We have given power to the Police and others to close the brothels, but have not provided the necessary homes for these unfortunate people, so that they may be weaned from the habits they have been obliged to cultivate. Here are some reports from the district officers which will show how urgent is the need for rescue homes. The District Magistrate of Madura says that the inmates of these brothels are merely thrown on the street and have had to eke out their livelihood as best as they can as no rescue homes have been provided. The District Superintendent of Police, Calicut, says that most of the girls who have been prohibited from practising their unfortunate profession returned to their houses and that some went to Cannanore and Tellicherry where the Act is not in force, for prostitution. Can we be passive witnesses to a state of affairs like this? In moving for the adoption of the report of the Madras Vigilance Association, Sir, the hon. the President of the Council—I am referring to you, Sir—said 'The apprehensions of the Government which influenced them to omit the clause providing for statutory home had proved in actual experience to be unfounded and it was high time that the Government stepped forward to lend a helping hand to the association.' So, Sir, you have recognized, not as president of the Council, but in your capacity as a good citizen that it is the clear duty of the Government to lend a helping hand in this matter. But what did Sir Usman, the Member who piloted the Bill or rather was responsible for its enactment, say? The Government of Madras no doubt were at one time unable to render any financial assistance; but he was sure that that state of affairs would not continue long and that better days would come when he was certain that the Madras Government would assist them financially.

"I venture to think that that time has now arrived, and may I appeal to the Government as constituted at present to find ways and means for establishing at least one rescue home and thereby giving effect to the intentions the authors had when they piloted this Bill and put it on the Statute book.

" I shall only conclude by adding my word of appreciation to those of several others who preceded me, appreciation of the work of the Hon. the Finance Member. It would not be correct to say that he has given satisfaction to everybody or every section of the House. If perhaps a vote is taken by ballot, I am sure the most discontented people will be found among his own colleagues in the Treasury Bench. But this much I will say of him, that he has tried to hold the scales even between the reserved and transferred halves, and he has not been affected by the favours of the one or the frowns of the other. That, Sir, I think is a great virtue in any Finance Member and it is worthy of appreciation and praise.

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, this is the fifth and the last Budget that the Hon. the Finance Member has presented to this Council, and I think, Sir, it is the duty of the Members of this House to tender their thanks to the Hon. the Finance Member, for the good work he has done during the period he has been in office As has been pointed out by more than one Member and has been referred to in the speech of the Hon. the Finance Member himself, the last five years have been trying times for this Presidency. Before this quinquennium we had an era of prosperity following the abolition of the provincial contribution of about 3½ crores. Sir Thomas Moir was at the helm of affairs then, and he had enough money to dole out. When he laid down his office he even regretted that some of the money had not been well spent. I think that feeling was entertained not only by the people interested in public finance, but also by the taxpayers and specially by the agriculturists. The agriculturists thought that when the provincial contributions were abolished a rebate would be given to the taxpayer. But nothing of the kind happened and the 3½ crores was spent from time to time, so that the expenditure of the Government increased, while the revenues also kept pace with the expenditure on account of the various resettlements. As I said, that was an era of prosperity. After that came a cataclysmic fall in prices, an era of depression. This happened some time after the present Finance Member took charge of the affairs of this Province, and he had really a very difficult time. As he himself said, the attempt he has been making was to steady the finances of the Province and to so arrange the Revenue and the Expenditure that there should not be fluctuations. I think, Sir, in that attempt he has succeeded very well, and he can feel proud of that work. He has been able to steer through the crisis by resorting to retrenchment in the various departments. He has however been able to get back this year to the old conditions by the restoration of the cuts in salaries by the provision for Part II schemes, by pursuing a policy of not borrowing, and by using the balances for productive capital expenditure, especially with regard to electricity. I think, Sir, these are points which certainly deserve our commendation. But I would like to ask him how this has affected the general policy of the Government as a whole. I am afraid, Sir, that this era of sound finance has brought in its wake some amount

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of irresponsibility. I should like to know how the cabinet has responded to the steadying of the finances of the Province, whether really the happy family has spread happiness to the Presidency as a whole or whether it has not been content only to get money for the various departments and when at fault its members were not throwing the blame on the Finance Department. I want to refer here to the question of land revenue, a live issue, which has been coming up again and again for comment in this House. It has been a common sight here to find Members not only of the Opposition but also of the Ministry voting for remission of taxes on a large scale. But with what result? The Government turned down the recommendation of the Legislative Council. It is said that the vote of the Legislative Council could not be taken into account because it was not practical. I ask, Sir, if this was a responsible Government, why should Members sitting behind the Ministers vote for such a proposition? If they were sincere, Sir, when they voted for remission they should have seen that the Ministers stood by the vote of the Legislative Council when the question came up before the Cabinet. That was why I said the trouble taken by the Finance Member has resulted in the irresponsibility creeping into the transferred half. As regards the land revenue policy, the policy of Government is 'Heads I win, Tails you lose.' The Government say 'We have got the periodical settlements; you cannot complain when the prices are low'; but when the people affected by the Cauvery-Mettur Project retort by saying, 'Certainly you had settlement some years ago, you revised the rates, why do you come forward again to revise it by increasing the taram classification?' The Government's reply is 'We have spent money on the Mettur Project as a commercial undertaking, and we are entitled to get income therefrom.' If it is a question of contract, and the tax-payer is bound by the periodic settlements, in what fairness can Government introduce during a settlement another increase? Is it fair that the agriculturist should be again and again asked to pay increased assessments?

"Then, Sir, coming to another immediate problem that confronts us, viz., famine in the Ceded districts. Some of us have been agitating that Government should spend more money out of the Famine Relief Fund for the prevention of famine rather than for giving relief after famine conditions begin to prevail. What have the Government done in this direction? This province has now about Rs. 60 lakhs in the Famine Relief Fund. Under the Devolution Rules, when the Fund exceeds Rs. 40 lakhs, it is open to the Madras Government to spend moneys out of the fund on protective irrigation works. But what is the protective work that has been undertaken by them in the Ceded districts? The Ceded districts are now in the grip of a big famine and Government are arranging to open relief centres. Relief centres are all right, but the point is there is no good in merely giving out doles and in trying to afford temporary relief. At such a time as this, Government should spend large amounts on the execution of protective works of permanent utility. It has been stated that some of the projects contemplated in the Ceded districts had to be given up because

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they were not productive. I think, Sir, when you want to fight famine and when you want to increase the prosperity of the districts, you cannot look at the irrigation projects works purely form a commercial point of view. It may be that some of the works may not be productive, but you will have the satisfaction that by executing such works you will enable people to stave off famine. There were some schemes to which I referred on a previous occasion as suitable schemes to be taken on hand. I mentioned among others the Dorigolla Project and the Kanchalamma Tank Project. These should be taken on hand immediately. I see in the current Budget no provision made for expenditure on such projects. Sir, when fighting famine, Government should have a longer vision and not be content with merely giving doles.

"Another thing to which I want to refer is with regard to the concession which was formerly given to the people to extract salt. After the Gandhi-Irwin pact, salt was allowed to be taken by the people from the soil without any hindrance. I understand that the concession has been taken away, because it is said the privilege has been abused. I am not quite sure if that is so. It may be that a few people have abused the privilege. But in a famine year, Government should restore this privilege. After all, Government are not losing by this as the salt revenue belongs to the Imperial Government. I understand that that Government have already stated that it is for the Madras Government to take action with regard to this concession. If that is so, I do not see any reason why this concession should not be granted to the Ceded districts.

"Sir, before I conclude my speech, I wish again to congratulate the Hon. the Finance Member and to say how grateful the people of this Province are to the Members of his family for all the good that they have done to Madras. Sir, not only the Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes himself, but his father Sir Henry Stokes and his uncle Sir Gabriel Stokes have done yeoman service to this Presidency."

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR :—"Mr. President, rising to speak on the parting gift of the Hon. the Finance Member, I wish to say that the Hon. Gentleman is entitled to the fullest sympathy of this House. From the commencement of his career he has had to deal with an exceptional situation, because of the grave depression in trade and the unprecedented scarcity for money from which the country has yet to recover. But, though it was with rocks ahead and angry waves beating round that, he was called upon to take charge of the ship laden with the treasures of our Province, yet it will be to the glory of the Hon. the Finance Member that he has not returned a weather-beaten, tempest-tost, ship-wrecked mariner. And I compliment the Hon. Gentleman on the position of the finances of our Province during the past five years. But, with reference to the policy that has been pursued during the period, I regret to say that I cannot greet him with a smile. It has more often been an unacceptable policy and it illustrates to my mind in a painfully clear manner the absence of a just realization of the hard realities of a hard situation.

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I have not the time to go into the details. But one work has to be said with reference to the explanation for the policy embodied in paragraph 29 of the speech of the Hon. the Finance Member. This is what the Hon. Gentleman says, ' . . . such our policy during the past five years. It has been governed throughout by one other ruling consideration of which I have not yet spoken, though on previous occasions I have emphasized it—the necessity of so ordering our finances as to ensure to those on whom under the new constitution will fall the direction of affairs, a reasonably favourable start.' Sir, I have said on a former occasion that this is citing Scripture to the aid. The Government have absolutely no right to safeguard the future by perpetrating an injustice in the present. If the claim of the Hon. the Finance Member is that, despite the phenomenal fall in the prices of agricultural produce, despite the distressing conditions in the districts, and despite the grinding poverty of the poor ryot and his incapacity to keep body and soul together, the top-heavy administration has continued, that land revenue collections attendant with coercive measures have taken place, and that resettlements resulting in enhanced taxations have been pushed through with unabated vigour, with one of the objects in view, being to prepare a bed of roses for the future responsible Ministers, my answer is that the Hon. Gentleman has helped responsibility with irresponsibility because of the consciousness that the only weapon in the armoury of weapons for India is the weapon of patient suffering. If the future was really the concern, then I should have found some lead in paragraph 28 of the speech of the Hon. the Finance Member in respect of the absence of elasticity in our revenues. The future that I visualize is indeed a gloomy one. The only silver lining in the dark cloud is the Hydro-Electric department to which an eloquent tribute was paid by the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Langley, the other day. I am in perfect agreement with all that he said about the department and about Major Howard.

" Having said so much within the short time allowed to me, I wish but to emphasize that the Government should not misread the situation because of the uncomplaining manner in which the people have borne burden after burden. A volume of feeling is gathering which requires to be treated with care. At every turn we find that the Government of the country and the people are poles asunder. Two striking instances will substantiate my point. Though by now the Government should have known that any Constitution based entirely on the lines of the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee will be unacceptable to any shade of Indian political opinion, yet we find that the matter is being pushed through on the same lines. The second point is one nearer home. May I ask the Hon. the Finance Member whether the Government of Madras has found its way to accept fully any one of the resolutions which this Council passed for affording relief to the agricultural population of the Province? (A voice: ' Hear, hear.') When resolution after resolution came up for discussion

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before this House, what did we find except the permanent opposition of the Government to every resolution? I trust the Government will read aright the significance of the profound and far-reaching change, which is taking place in the public opinion of the country. New generations are rising up, whose notions of the character and ideals of British Rule are derived only from their experience of the last few years, and whose minds are not restrained by the thought of the great work which England has on the whole accomplished in the past in this land. I fully believe that it is in the power of the Government to make the people feel that they have a Government national in spirit though foreign in personnel. Such a result will not be achieved by any methods of repression. For Congressmen, who some months back, were put down as a lawless class, have to-day, by the popular vote of the public been installed in the Parliament of India as the law-givers of the country and their voice is a factor of great importance in the present Legislative Assembly. What the situation really requires is not the policeman's *lathi* or the soldier's sword, but the statesman's insight, wisdom and courage. Relieve the unemployment in the country; go to the relief of the agriculturists; and whatever Reforms are taken in hand, let them be dealt with frankly and generously. Let not the words 'too late' be written on every one of them. For, while the Government stands hesitating, receding and debating whether the words 'Dominion status' are to be or not to be in the Preamble, opportunities rush past it which can never be recalled. And, Sir, the moving finger writes and having writ, moves on."

* Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me at least now an opportunity to speak. I wish to congratulate the Hon. the Finance Member for the balanced Budget that he has presented to us. This is not his first balanced Budget. This is the fifth time that he has presented us a balanced Budget to this House. Though this is so, Sir, one cannot be over-enthusiastic. The position of the agriculturists continues to be very bad and now the position is worsening on account of foreign rice coming into the province. In this situation, money is very scarce in the country and the taxes are enhanced every day by every means and these make the position of the ryot intolerable.

"Sir, as a military man myself, I wish in this connexion to say something about the Madras Regiment. I have several times asked that about a dozen regiments are to be formed in Madras. This is the Presidency in which the Britisher in the beginning set his foot. The Madrasee Regiments did much help to the authorities in the past. But now except a small battalion of Sappers and Miners we have no Madras Regiment. I pointed this out many times in this Council and also at the time when they were disbanding the remaining regiments. I also sent up wires and also memorials through my retired Indian Officers on this matter to the higher authorities. But they were not considered.

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During last month's sittings, when the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee was under discussion, I wanted to bring this matter up; but I was unfortunately given no opportunity to do so.

"Now, Sir, there was so much talk in this Council about unemployment. If you tell the Government that ten Madras Regiments are formed here, it would require 10,000 people and to that extent it will relieve unemployment. You said nothing of the sort.

"To-day on account of the abolition of the Madrassi regiment many of the ex-sepoys have been thrown out of employment. Well, I have brought this to the notice of the Government and they always say that they will be given employment in the Civil department and that they have given some of them lands on darkhast. Although there have been Government Orders, their claims have not been considered properly. Then I brought it to the notice of the Hon. Sir Archibald Campbell when he was here as Revenue Member and he did his best. There are no doubt Government Orders but they are not properly given effect to by the district authorities. A little concession in shape of free education to the children was given to ex-army men but it was withdrawn under Government Order of December last. Why was it done I cannot understand. Everybody must know that majority of the poor sepoys get after retirement only Rs. 5 as pension. But a sepoy has got so many children and so many other things to look to. Although the concession given to their children in schools is very little this was also withdrawn. Government are spending money on so many other things. I do not know what difficulty they had in continuing this concession (free scholarship to the children of ex-army men). Unfortunately it was withdrawn in December last. That is a thing which should be looked into by the Government. I do not know on whose advice it was withdrawn. If this little concession is taken away, what will the poor family of the ex-sepoy do? This is a point which should be considered very carefully by the Government and they should cancel the Government Order recently published. 12-3 p.m.

"By the abolition of the Madras army most of my community people, i.e., Vanniyakula Kshatriyas to which community I have the honour to belong have been thrown out of employment. Most of them are uneducated. Formerly they were Rajas but now they are not so rich or educated. On account of depression in trade, etc., they are not employed anywhere now. They are not encouraged and given employment in Government service. The so-called communal Government Order is not given effect to properly. I think it is not fair on the part of the Government to allow such things to go on. The Vanniyakula Kshatriyas or the majority of them are really backward people. Their population comes to 35 lakhs in Southern India, but they are nowhere in the Government services. They are poverty-stricken. Most of them were landowners. Many of them have sold their lands for paying Government kist and for other purposes and many others are now in the process of selling their lands on account of the depression. The

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Government Order (communal) does not help them very much because they are neither rich and influential, nor well educated. Take the case of Non-Brahman Hindus who are already in advance. Who are they? They belong to the so-called high class Hindus, they own lands and riches, and command influence. They are able to get employment in the Government through the pillars and ladders already set in for them. Whereas the people belonging to my community are not so because they are not so rich or influential and their applications for Government employment are always rejected. Take the case of other communities also. The Muslims, the Anglo-Indians and the Indian Christian communities are far better than my community because they have got more influence and the Government help them. Although the total population of my community comes to 35 lakhs, they are nowhere in the Government service. I did not at all say these things before because many of them were in the military service. Now it is said that they are going to get Dominion Status or something which I cannot say, but without an army of our own we will be unable to keep our dignity and prestige. Now coming to so-called backward communities, there are 90 of them. Many of them I clearly say are better classes of people but shown as backwards. The real backward classes are not included in the list of 'backward' communities. The Vanniyakula Kshatriyas are neither influential nor rich although they have got an enormous strength. I hope the Government will look to this and do something if necessary by appointing an impartial committee to report upon. With these few words I resume my seat."

* Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi :—" There is one feature in this year's budget and that is the Ceded districts have been treated more liberally than in former years, for which the Hon. the Finance Member deserves our congratulations. I find that money has been provided from the Famine Fund for the Thippayapalle project which is now in progress in the Kurnool district. The Hon. the Finance Member rightly describes this work as a 'protective work,' i.e., a work which is intended as a protection against future famines. I believe this is the first time when Government conceded the principle that Famine Relief includes also protection against famines. I hope that as the Government have got a very large famine relief fund, they will apply this principle more liberally in future and see that they undertake at as early a date as possible a few more protective works in the Ceded districts which have been so badly affected by famines.

" Then, Sir, as in the last year, the one burning question in the country is the plight of the ryot. It is unfortunate that Government has not been able to accept the resolution of this House on land revenue remission. But I say that Government has not made even the next attempt, taking it for granted that the position of the Government is correct and that a wholesale granting of remissions is impracticable, to find out whether it is not possible to grant remissions at least to those parts which deserve remission. The case of the Government is that land revenue remission is a matter of charity, that wholesale charity on the

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scale suggested by this House is not feasible and that there is no such thing as discrimination in charities. So far as the Ceded districts are concerned, it has been pointed out by a resolution of this House that this is a region where the economic distress is the greatest. Last year it was pointed out at the time of the budget discussion by Sir A. P. Patro, who took upon himself the odious task of supporting the Government on the question of land revenue remission, that Government might have made an investigation on a regional basis to see where economic distress was felt the greatest. That suggestion fell through and the Government found that a resolution of this House for such a large measure of relief throughout the Presidency from time to time could not be accepted. At least when it was specifically pointed out by a resolution of this House that the Ceded districts were the districts which were greatly affected by seasonal conditions and also by the effects of a prolonged economic depression, I was sure that Government would have at least tried to meet the needs of the Ceded districts, and certainly it would not have cost the Government very much, so far as the Ceded districts are concerned, if they had done so. No arguments are needed to convince the Government that the Ceded districts are the districts which are affected by the greatest economic distress. With an inherently poor soil, lack of irrigation works, precariousness of rainfall and the ever recurring famines in those parts, the condition of the ryots is really very miserable. I do not think either the Government or any Member of this House will deny for one moment if that is not the area which is most seriously affected by the economic depression. If that is conceded, I do not see any reason why Government have not granted remission at least to the Ceded districts. No doubt Government will say places which are found to be affected by famine are given remissions. Even those areas which the Government think are not affected by famine are not areas which are better off. Probably they have not reached that pitch of misery which the Government want them to before remissions could be granted. Practically even the other portions of the districts are in the same condition and the normal suspension of revenue is very small on account of the nature of crops prevailing there. More than that, one could easily imagine the lot of the ryots after a long period of economic depression. I therefore appeal to the Government that it is not even now too late. The Hon. the Revenue Member at the close of the discussion on the resolution regarding land revenue remission was somewhat sympathetic to the Ceded districts. Probably if the resolution had appeared in a specific form on behalf of the Ceded districts, Government would have given it a better hearing. Even now it is not too late. Let us not stand on formalities. Once if they are convinced about the need of the Ceded districts for a greater measure of relief I think the Government need not hesitate to give them more relief.

"Then, Sir, there is the question of resettlement which has been agitating the minds of the people. So far as the principles of resettlement are concerned, one cannot but remark that they do not appear to

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be based on any principles whatsoever. They are, I think, based not on any sound principle of taxation on land, but they are based on a system of land rent, with this absurd difference that the lessee has no voice in fixing the rent. Then Sir, what is the position taken up by the Government? If one examines the various communiqués and the pronouncements made by Hon. Members of Government, one cannot but realize the absurd or the inconsistent position they have taken up with regard to this question. For instance there is the communiqué on public indebtedness. Well, it is there admitted that the ryot is really indebted and his debts are increasing. Basing the resettlement on the assumption that there is increment in the income of these people, Government is supposed to claim a share in the unearned increment. You are practically assuming that there is an increment in the income and then in the same breath you say that indebtedness is increasing.

2-45 p.m. "Then, are you in a position to explain how this indebtedness has increased if there is an increment in the income of the agriculturist? Then again, Sir, you say that the ryot even at the present rate of assessment is not able to pay. If that is the case, how do you justify the introduction of resettlement rates which are much higher than the existing rates themselves? There is also the question of economic depression. Even Sir Archibald Campbell at the close of the adjournment motion regarding the resettlement of West Godavari, practically admitted that even the principles of resettlement will not stand the strain of this economic depression. It may be that in ordinary times, principles of resettlement might be applied, but at a time of exceptional strain like this, you should frankly admit that the principles of resettlement could not be expected to be applied. Every one admits that this is a time of exceptional distress. At once it follows that an exceptional situation requires exceptional treatment. At this time of economic depression, if you thrust resettlement in the face of such bitter opposition from the public, the result will only be driving the nail of disaffection deeper into the hearts of the people, and with no other result.

"One argument has always been advanced and that is the Government is so very anxious about the financial condition of the coming Government under the Reforms and that is the reason why it should be forced upon the people. That is an absurd proposition. If one should see the manifesto of the Justice Party and that of Dr. Subbarayan's Party, it will be seen that every party is pledged to see that resettlement is abolished. In that situation, even if the Congress comes in, you cannot expect that the Congress would be prepared for resettlement. As a matter of fact, they are against resettlement. If that is the policy, you cannot expect them to face the electorate at the next election. Now the present Government is in the hands of experienced people and it is better that you take the advice of the people and see that the period of transition is made easy. If the new Government is asked to face the problem of abolishing resettlement, it is an entirely different question and I am sure in that case there will be great difficulty for the coming constitution to be worked. It is therefore better

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if you are really interested in the smooth working of the Reformed Government, that you shoulder this responsibility yourself in order that the transition is made easy for the coming Government.

" So far as the Kurnool district is concerned, resettlement operations are going on. In a district which has already been bled white and impoverished to the utmost extent, if resettlement rates are introduced, I can hardly describe the misery. Only the Tungabhadra separates us from the Nizam's Dominions and the people of the Nizam's Dominions are, in comparison, in a more prosperous condition than the people of my district. The Nizam's Government are affording great facilities for their people and if resettlement rates are introduced in this district, I am sure there will be an immediate exodus in very large numbers to the Nizam's Dominions. I am therefore sure Government will certainly pay attention to the entreaties of the Members of this House as regards the question of resettlement, especially in those districts which are already over-burdened with taxes at the present moment.

" Then, Sir, there is one other question which affects the ryots in the Ceded districts at the present time and that is the question of grazing fees. I think as a measure of relief to the agricultural ryots, grazing fees might be abolished temporarily. I do not say that it should be abolished for ever, but only as a measure of relief during this period of economic depression. After all the loss to the Government as a result of this will be only very small. In order to give some measure of relief on account of the supervening conditions, I think the Government will take these things into consideration and afford relief to the ryots. In view of the plight of the ryots in the Ceded districts, once again, I would earnestly entreat the Government to see whether they could not reconsider their decision at least so far as these districts are concerned.

" Then again, Sir, there is the Government of India circular which *inter alia* urges on a more liberal policy so far as the ryots are concerned. I do not know what the Government of Madras have done even in deference to the Government of India circular on this question. I think the door is still open for them and if they could only see that they touch only a fringe of it, say the Ceded districts, I think they would have done something in the way of affording relief to the people in their existing distress."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, it must be admitted that the speech of the Hon. the Finance Member is unrivalled in its lucidity and clearness and he has attempted during the past five years to follow the normal way of budgeting. From that point of view, I think he deserves the thanks of the people. But, Sir, I am tempted to offer a few remarks on the policy followed by the Government during the past five years, which is contained in the concluding paragraphs of his speech, with special reference to paragraphs 28 and 29. To use his own language, he has stated that the policy of the Government has been governed by the ruling consideration of so ordering the affairs of the State as to ensure a reasonably favourable

start to those on whom the affairs of State will fall in the coming constitution. Again, in the same paragraph he has stated that it was easier for the Government to follow a spendthrift policy and earn cheap popularity, which according to him would have resulted in disaster. These two statements are *per se* incontrovertible as laying down a policy of sound finance, but I am afraid, Sir, these cannot stand for a moment the test of practical scrutiny in relation to facts and circumstances which this Presidency was confronted with during these past five years. Let me at first dispose of the second statement by saying that it is not right to say that anybody advocated a spendthrift policy. If there has been a clamour for remission, to use again the words of the Finance Member, the clamour was indicative of the suffering of the people on account of exceptional depression, a condition beyond their control. It is a small satisfaction that our budgets have been balanced and that there are no deficits. The real criterion by which the financial soundness of a country is judged, is not its balanced budgets or the ability of the Government to collect all its taxes—for it is possible for a Government to collect all its dues, all its taxes, without reference to the condition of the people. But the real test of the stability of a country is the financial condition of the people, how far the people are affluent and whether they have continued to be rich or at least in their normal condition, or whether they have been reduced to poverty. There cannot be bankruptcy of the Government, except in the sense that the people have become bankrupt. Whenever people advocated a policy, it is from this point of view that they have urged on the Government to carry on the Government by adopting a bold policy in matters of finance. It is easy, Mr. President, to collect revenues and to collect them till the people are unable to pay. When people become bankrupt, it is only then it can be stated that the Government have become bankrupt. So, in that sense, if people clamour for remissions, it is indicative of the suffering of the people and it is the duty of the Government to remove the cause of the suffering.

"Coming to the second statement made by the Hon. the Finance Member, I am glad to say that at last, after five years, he is compelled to admit that the Government cannot depend upon the self-same resources. The complaint of the people has been that in these exceptional circumstances, the Government went on coolly and complacently as if nothing had happened and did not develop other sources of income, and did not strike out a bold policy. It must have been known to the Government and especially to the Hon. the Finance Member, that the responsibility for these exceptional circumstances is to be laid beyond the frontiers of India. Look at what other Governments are doing in their own countries, for instance, America, Germany and other countries. It is the purchasing power of the people that is at its lowest ebb; money that is locked in the hands of a few people is not being distributed. Even in India it cannot be said that there is no money. The pity of it is that it is locked up in the hands of a few, in the hands of moneylenders and in the hands of zamindars, who are not

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willing to part with it. It is only when money is distributed that prices can rise, and when prices rise, the purchasing power of the people rises and then only it can be said that the Government can get money and administer the affairs of the State. What has been done by this Government? I am not so much enamoured of the remissions that have been granted by the Government, and there is no great point in people asking for remission. What is more important is to request the Government to strike out a bold policy by which money can be circulated, so that the prices may rise high and people may have money with them for their own purposes and for the purpose of paying the Government. That has not been done. No doubt, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Langley, has put it, the only thing that has been done all these years is that money has been invested in remunerative enterprises and the Government have been able to realize some profits, thus relieving the tax-payer.

"That is not enough. Is it not possible for the Government to raise big loans and then offer them to the people so that trade might be stimulated and the people might earn money, and be able to pay taxes to the Government. Some such policy must be adopted in order that there might be financial soundness in the country and unless there is financial soundness in the country, that is unless the ryots and people are financially sound, it cannot for a moment be considered that the Government can be financially sound." 1 p.m.

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, to begin with I should like to point out as I have done on several occasions, that our Budget principles are bound up with the inelasticity of our revenues. As far as writers on public finance understand it, it is supposed that the Budget is framed after knowing exactly what the Government want to spend and then proposals for taxation are undertaken according to the expenditure the Government have proposed. But, unfortunately owing to the circumstances we are situated in to-day—the Hon. the Finance Member made reference to it in his speech—our revenues are inelastic and we are getting almost to the state when it would be impossible to find more revenue from the sources allowed at present to the Government. It has been the practice not only in the pre-Reform days but also even after the introduction of the Reforms, by which Government know exactly what they are going to get from the heads of revenue that have been allotted to them under the Act and propose to spend the money thus available on the service they undertake. Some of these services are fixed, like General Administration and the Police. Only with regard to the Transferred departments, which are commonly known as the nation-building departments, with the sources available in the end, after the fixed charges have been met, are moneys spent for the service of the people. That itself is a wrong system and I am sure in the future, the Finance Minister under the new Constitution will have to devise other ways by which they can not only find revenue but also provide for objects of expenditure by the methods known to Parliamentary institutions.

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"My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, appealed to the Leader of the House and to other leaders of parties that these three days might be added to the days allotted for the discussion of and voting on demands because the time available does not really give opportunity to the Members of this Council to comment and criticize the Budget proposals. Neither the Hon. the Leader of the House nor any of the leaders of parties in this House are responsible for the procedure adopted. This procedure has been laid down by the Government of India Act and as I have pointed out, this is really a relic of the past. Under the old system, before the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms, the Council possessed very little powers with regard to Budget and, therefore, the Members were allowed to travel from China to Peru on the general administration of the Province and that is how this system still prevails. Even now we travel from China to Peru and I intend to follow that example. In this connexion, one is naturally led on to the Reform proposals which are under consideration.

"The Hon. the Revenue Member the other day said that he was disappointed with the speech I made on the Reforms. I did not expect anything but disappointment from him; but personally, I was quite satisfied with my performance ('Hear, hear' from the Treasury Benches) because I found that some of the arguments that were adduced by me were repeated verbatim by the Leader of the Congress Party in the Legislative Assembly ('Hear, hear') and I should say that they are supposed to really represent the interests of the country at present. The last elections have shown that beyond doubt. (Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu: 'No, no.') My hon. Friend, Mr. Sundara Rao Nayudu, may so 'no,' but the candidates whom he supported at the last elections were defeated and this bears out what I have stated. Therefore, Mr. President, in spite of the disappointment of the Hon. the Revenue Member, I do not think we need be disappointed for the simple reason that the opinion of the country to-day is that the Reforms propounded by His Majesty's Government do not even satisfy what the Secretary of State described as the middle opinion in this country. Even the party in power who are supposed to be satisfied with the Reform proposals as propounded were not satisfied; and the resolution which was eventually carried along with the amendments proposed by Mr. Krishnayya Choudari proves that at least so far as this House is concerned they were certainly not satisfied with the Reform proposals of His Majesty's Government. Unless the proposals are going to be widened, I am sure no party in this country, though they may be willing to work the Reforms, will be satisfied with the new Constitution Act that will be eventually passed. The Hon. the Revenue Member said that I made no constructive proposals. My reply to that is that constructive proposals have already been made on the floor of this House time after time and the result has been the Report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee. It did not even pay any attention to any of the proposals that have been put forward not only by this House but by the members of the public interested in the future constitution of this country. When such is the case, I would like to ask my hon. Friend,

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what remedy he would suggest. He said himself that in spite of the speech of His Excellency the Governor himself with regard to indirect election, he was not satisfied. He is not satisfied with the proposal of His Majesty's Government; that is the one crux of the whole situation. I believe even the Government of India are not satisfied with the proposal of His Majesty's Government with regard to indirect election to the Assembly. I hope that the representations made by the Madras Government, if the Hon. the Revenue Member really represents the collective opinion of the Government of Madras, and the opinion of the Government of India, will have their effect on His Majesty's Government and the Constitution Bill, when it becomes an Act, will at least provide for direct elections to the Federal Assembly.

" The Hon. the Revenue Member referred to the irresponsibility of this Council with regard to the vote on the resolution for the remission of 33⅓ per cent in the land revenue. I am afraid that my hon. Friend has not been long in this Council to understand why such a resolution was being passed time after time. It is being done merely to show to the Government the feelings that exist outside in regard to the payment of land revenue and to expose the claim to ' easy collection of land revenue in the districts.' I have heard Collectors of districts saying that there is no difficulty in the collection of revenue. As several hon. Members have pointed out, I do not think the criterion should be whether you are able to easily collect the revenues; but the criterion should be whether the people who are to pay the taxes are in a position to pay them without difficulty. With regard to the adjournment motion that was moved in the House the other day, the Hon. the Revenue Member quoted figures to show that the rates in taxation with regard to the re-settlement of Salem and some parts of Trichinopoly district did not exceed 5¾ per cent. If the Government feel that even the present amount of revenue has got to be remitted to some extent and they have decided that at least 12½ per cent in the matter of wet assessments and 6¼ in the matter of dry assessments should be given,—I cannot see how 5¾ per cent is not a hardship on the people that have got to pay it. He also pleaded in that connexion that because other districts have been settled before, these districts ought not to be allowed to go without settlement. I entirely agree with him in that proposition. But the method is not to settle this district with a particular revenue but to see that the settlement in the other districts that have been settled, should be kept in abeyance at least as long as the present depression lasts. That is what I believe hon. Members who supported the adjournment motion wanted. They did not want that Government revenue should be stopped for ever. If you think there is depression which is an acknowledged fact and if you think that the people are not in a position to pay, I think, Sir, that the remedy is that so long as the depression lasts at least, there should be no compulsion about the payment of the increased amount of revenue. In that connexion, I would like to refer to the lead which has been given by the Punjab Government in the matter of collection of revenue. The Hon. the Revenue Member is aware of the Punjab

Government's decision by which they have evolved a method whereby the collection of revenue will be done on a graduated scale in times of depression with regard to the people who have got to pay them. I think that the Government of Madras will, at least at this late, late stage, take that into consideration. I am really voicing the feelings of the outside public when I say, that instead of the fact that they are paying easily which he wanted us to believe, that they did so with great exertion and they are not even able to clothe themselves or to feed themselves. Therefore, is it right for any Government worth its name to force the people to pay such taxes which they are not able to bear or pay?

"My hon. Friend, Sir Patro, talked of retrenchment. He is not in his seat just now."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Why should he be here?"

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not know what the Hon. the Home Member means by saying 'why should he be here?' I am referring to the fact that he is not here. If the Hon. Member is not aware of the use of the English language, I am afraid I am not responsible."

Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"You were not here on so many days."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I am not paid for it, whereas you are. Mr. President, to go on with what I have been saying, I would like to touch on one or two salient points in regard to the Transferred departments and before I proceed to that I have to say a word about the present Council. We are now in the fifth year of existence. I remember, at the time when the Budget was presented for 1933-34, I was one of those who pleaded that it would not be possible for the Reforms to come in the time the Government expected and it was better to hold elections in 1933. I said so because at the time I felt that the Council would last its time. I find that I was quite correct. I think the present Council will last at least till the next year. Therefore if elections had been held at that time, it would be a Council that has had its full term.

"I do not think if real democratic institutions ought to work in this country this extension time after time would bring responsibility to the people of this country. If responsibility is to be an accomplished fact unless several reasons of State interfere or other circumstances make it impossible for elections to be held, I think it is imperative that elections should be held at the time when they ought to be held. I am pleased to see at least in the present constitutional Bill no power is given to extend the life of the Council, either to the Governor or to the Governor-General and I hope methods will not be found to get round this very salutary feature of this present constitution Bill. I would like also to refer to the Education Bill that was passed by this Council a short while ago. I feel that it will not be possible to accomplish what the Minister thinks he is going to accomplish. I feel this system of partial compulsion is not going to work.

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On the other hand as an editorial in one of the local journals pointed out the other day I think the system after the introduction of this measure will be worse than the previous system. It will certainly discourage parents from sending their boys to school and so the number of pupils admitted will be surely lower than has been the case previously. With regard to the Local Self-Government department I would like to point out that the Hon. Minister when he passed the Bill with regard to the abolition of the taluk boards and the new Bill was made law he did say at the time that nominations will not be used for party purposes, and in bifurcated districts nominations will be made only where minorities are to be represented. But in the only district where bifurcation has taken place I cannot say that party considerations did not come into play. I am afraid they did and I am afraid that what I said at that time that even though the Hon. Gentleman, the Chief Minister, might have the best of intentions the pressure that would be applied to him would be such that he would not be able to resist has come true. I am sorry that it has happened in the present bifurcation of the Tanjore district. I am sure the Hon. Gentleman, the Chief Minister, has his own explanation with regard to this and I would like to hear him. But at the same time I do fear that the nominations that were made to this East Tanjore District Board were made with party purposes in mind. With regard to the Agricultural department I am sure the Hon. Minister will plead as usual want of funds and I entirely sympathize with him in that. But at the same time I do not know whether he has read that in Soviet Russia they are finding it possible to produce more than what it has been the case so far more with electrically treated plants and with the coming in of the hydro-electric schemes specially in Coimbatore, Salem and other districts. (Interruption.) I am sorry the Hon. the Law Member thinks that I am referring to a particular district of Salem and not to East Godavari. I will be the first to recommend it for East Godavari. Salem came in because it is nearer the place where electricity is being generated. I hope the Agricultural department will be able to look into this matter and see what could be done, because it would be a great asset if something could be done to the districts where owing to the failure of monsoon and rain they find it difficult to raise any crop at all. Finally, I would like to say a word or two by way of farewell to the Hon. the Leader of the House. I am sure whatever opinion hon. Members may hold of Sir Hopetoun Stokes they will realize that he has satisfied the old adage that service of the Government is service of the people. ('Hear, hear.') I am sure in his long career of 33 or 34 years in this country he has had the interests of the people whom he served at heart. I am told it is 38 years. I am glad to be corrected. He has been 38 years in this country serving the people to the best of his lights and I am sure when he lays down his office he will feel that he has done his best because people in the province do realize that Sir Hopetoun has given the best part of his life to the service of this country. It is not only Sir Hopetoun but three generations of his family have served in this province. His father and uncle occupied the position which he occupies.

to-day and because of that the family has become really a part of Madras. And I am very sorry that there is no one to carry on the tradition of the Stokes's in the services to come. In nearly a century of service in this country they have done what they could to advance the interests of the people and to bring about the prosperity of the land. I am sure Sir Hopetoun in his retirement will think of India and the things that are going to happen in this country. I am sure his goodwill will be with us even if he has left this country. In saying farewell to Sir Hopetoun I will also include Lady Stokes though she is not a Member of this House. I am one of those who believe that a good wife is the sign of a good man. ('Hear, hear' and cheers.) I am sure if Sir Hopetoun takes interest in the people Lady Stokes has helped him in every way. Lady Stokes has taken a great interest in the welfare of the people and has thrown herself haert and soul in any movement calculated to promote the social welfare of the people and in bidding farewell to Sir Hopetoun Stokes I iuclude Lady Stokes as well. I am sure I voice the feeling of the Members when I wish Sir Hopetoun a long life of usefulness and prosperity in his homeland."

* Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—"I need hardly say that I join in the felicitations to Sir Hopetoun and Lady Stokes, their career in this country and also their services to this country. Speaking now about the Budget estimates I do not in the least blame Sir Hopetoun for the barren Budget which he has been able to present. He is the victim of the system which he has to carry on. As he himself has stated, the revenues of this province may not show any elasticity and how can they do anything better than what has been done? He has stated that if at all the revenue is stationary, there are signs of its contraction. Now, Sir, the system that he has inherited is responsible and I hope that great service to which he belongs would find out some remedy for this and that some system apart from the present system of land revenue wonld be invented by them and put before this House for us to look into and carry out. I have been disappointed and I hope future generations of Ministers will not disappoint to present something more tangible so far as land revenue is concerned. Turning to revenue remissions the Members of Government see the force of the contention put forward by Members of the Legislative Council as to the economic depression. But yet they are not in a position to extend the same amount of remission as was granted last year. So far as wet lands in Malabar are concerned instead of 12½ per cent last year this year Government has reduced it to 10-16/50 per cent. The reason mentioned is that there is slight increase in prices and therefore they do not give the same remission as last year. No doubt there has been a slight increase but that is attributable to the shortage of supply. It ought to have been remembered that both in this district and South Kanara there is a great deal of shortage of supply and that is really the reason why the prices did rise a little bit. If as a matter of fact people cannot have the same amount of money which they want for their own expenses and for paying Government revenue it is hard that they should be called upon

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to pay a little more than what they paid on the ground there was a rise in prices. With reference to the rates of settlement itself it is perhaps late now to eliminate the resettlement of the district which has already taken place. One cannot understand why district after district is resettled when on the one hand the Government resettle and enhance the rate and on the other hand give remissions to the self-same districts. Why not postpone resettlement for some years and in better years do it? Dealing with the Budget itself I want to put one or two questions to the Hon. the Finance Member. Reference was made to the Cochin Harbour. I want to clear my doubt on that point. Large sums of money are spent on the Cochin Harbour. Are we going to get tangible part of the customs revenues derived from the harbour when the whole scheme is in working order or will the customs go to the Imperial Government or will we have a share? It is a point on which I want to have information. Another matter to which I would refer is that there are several hydro-electric schemes which are said to be productive in the province and which are hoped to be more and more productive. I ask why should private licence be given at all for private firms for lighting? Why not wait until the whole scheme develops and why not Government itself supply power to municipalities and other institutions that do want electric power? I do not want to deal in detail on various matters as I would like to as there is no time to do so. But with reference to education, I would ask the Education Member to see that teachers in aided schools are paid the same scales as teachers in schools run by the local bodies. Further I want that the grants given to schools are really paid to the teachers in the schools. (Laughter.) It is in our personal experience that grants are taken by the managers on the ground that teachers are paid at a certain stage. As a matter of fact those grants in all cases really do not reach the teachers themselves. You must see that the managers of schools pay this money to the teachers. That will be a great favour done to the teachers.

"I may also mention one other point which strikes me. I read the other day in the newspapers that the Government contemplate to nominate a President to the District Educational Council in Malabar, the reason mentioned being that there has been serious defalcation to the extent of Rs. 20,000. That is said to be the reason for superseding the elected chairman and for nominating one to it. But I ask whether it is reasonable to do so. I remember an instance some time back in Malabar when there was defalcation to the extent of Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 thousands in the Collector's office. Mr. Thorne, the then Collector, made elaborate enquiries and some clerks were punished. Certain officers also who were responsible, had to contribute some money out of their own pay. If defalcation takes place in a department like that and if one can excuse such sinners no supersession follows, why should not the same thing done in the case of the District Educational Council also? That is not a valid reason to take a retrograde step and abolish the right of election altogether and to nominate a person as the President of the Council.

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"Then again I would particularly like to draw the attention of the Hon. the Member concerned to the absence of any special grants with reference to the education of the depressed classes. I would ask the Member for the time being to put the education of the depressed classes on the same level and treat it as a separate subject as European education. You can put it in the portfolio of any of the Members of the Government. My suggestion is that there should be a separate department and a separate officer to look after the education of the, depressed classes. There ought to be a person whose business it is to bring all boys and girls belonging to the depressed classes together into schools and give them education; they must be practically compelled to study as far the Government can afford to do so. This is the only remedy to what is known as the inferiority complex that the depressed classes labour under and that can be done only if you give them education, free education. An appointment here and an appointment there to the members of these depressed classes will not really improve their condition. That is a matter which the Government should seriously tackle.

"Then I would ask this question, why are we not developing the oil industry and making some experiments with reference to the various oils that can be procured on the West Coast? Of course you have got an officer there and he can experiment with various oils and see if it is not possible to stop the vast amount of oils that is being imported into India from outside. Something should be done by the Government in that direction.

"Then again with regard to public health, village sanitation and protected water-supply, I was startled to find soon after I entered the Council some time back that there are several villages where there is no drinking water at all. Water used for washing cattle, water intended to irrigate the surrounding lands, is used by people for drinking purposes. At some places people have to walk 3 to 4 miles before they can get driuking-water. It is a very strange thing for people like me living in Malabar where water is superabundant. If it is a fact, it is time enough that the Government should tackle this question as early as possible. I remember reading in Todd's Rajastan instances of Rajahs sinking wells 300 and 400 feet deep, so that people may be supplied with drinking water; it is desirable that our Government also should do things like that, and have drinking-water supplied to the people. I submit, Sir, that the general health of the people will not be good unless there is protected water-supply; my town of Calicut suffers very much for want of protected water-supply. I submit there are other matters which the Government ought to consider. But as Dr. Subbarayan observed, the Council is practically in its last gasp and there is practically very little interest shown by anybody—not even the Hon. Ministers—in matters which concern the public. It is not strange that we are sunk practically into a state of lethargic indifference to all that is necessary?"

The House then adjourned for lunch.

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After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The Hon. Members of Government will now reply."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—Mr. President, Sir, it has fallen to my lot on behalf of the Government to begin the reply to the various criticisms that have been directed against the departments under my control. I am in the happy position that hon. Members of the Legislative Council have been rather very good to me. There has been very little criticism of the subjects under my charge and here and there was paid a nice compliment regarding the subject of electricity. I shall come to the question of electricity at a later stage and shall deal first with the Development Department, part of which, viz., Forests, is under my control.

" So far as Forests are concerned, the criticism advanced has been confined mainly to one or two points. One is about the grazing fees and the other the hardy annual of concession in regard to leaf-manure in South Kanara.

" So far as the first question of grazing fees is concerned, I may point out that it is an age-long one. Ever since the Forest settlement took place and the Forest Act was passed in the year 1882, I suppose this Council has been hearing expressions of grievances connected with grazing fees. Naturally, the ryots feel that this is a tax on their cattle, as it were, and is not justifiable. But when it is said that the fees are being raised from year to year or at any rate at intervals, I am afraid I must tell the House that there is not much substance in that criticism. One hon. Member was telling the House that there has been an increase in the revenues from grazing fees. This, I submit, is not correct. From the figures that I have before me, I find that whereas in the year 1929–30 the grazing revenue realized was about Rs. 5,83,000, it was Rs. 5,93,000 in the year 1930–31, Rs. 5,58,000 in 1931–32, Rs. 5,77,000 in the year 1932–33 and Rs. 5,79,000 in 1933–34. It will be noticed, Sir, that there has been a tendency to decrease and not to increase. The rates prescribed vary from district to district and from division to division. But one thing I should like to place before the House is that of late the tendency of the Government and the tendency of the department likewise has been to see that greater facilities were afforded to the people. For instance, whereas hitherto a permit was granted to graze cattle up to a limit or a certain range, it is now extended to the whole division. No doubt, a little more is charged, but that is very little indeed. It cannot be said, therefore, that Government have been either hard on the people or that they have been realizing more revenues than hitherto.

" One circumstance in this connexion needs mention, and that is about the forest panchayats. After the introduction of these panchayats, it is left to the people themselves to form into a panchayat, control

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and manage the forest area given to them, and there need be no trouble at all from any of the Forest officers. But let me say this on behalf of the Forest officers that they are a hard-worked lot—people living almost in the forests or at any rate spending the greater part of their time in the forests. (Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: 'Question.') My hon. Friend may question it, but those that have known their work, have seen their work and had opportunities of watching their work and controlling their work—and I believe I am one of them—know, and my hon. Friend may kindly take it from me, that they are a really hard-worked people; and let it be said to their credit that they have been doing their bit honestly with the greatest efficiency that is possible. (Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: 'Question.) If you are referring to some lower officers, I have nothing to say; in fact how could you always expect poor people, a poor warder on Rs. 10 or so, to be honest? (Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: 'What about rangers?') Whatever it is, Sir, I have every faith in the officers of that department and I have no reason to complain against them; on the other hand, I would be failing in my duty if I do not defend them here, and recognize the very valuable services they have been rendering to the State. That much for grazing.

"The next question is, as I said, the hardy annual of the concessions in South Kanara. I suppose not a single meeting of the Legislative Council passes without my friends, Messrs. Bhatt and Shetty, raising this subject either in the form of interpellations in the Council or in the form of resolutions or by giving notice to move resolutions. You know the whole question of these forest concessions, how they were removed, and how the concessions came into operation or came into play. They start with the wrong assumption that these forest concessions which they were enjoying a little while ago were immemorial in the sense that they had been enjoying these rights from the very beginning. Sir, that has been questioned and as a result of a recent enquiry made by the officers of the department, the working-plan officers had put it plainly, clearly and indisputably, that these concessions are certainly not immemorial rights, nor even ancient, but were given to them about the year 1924. Previous to that year, they had no rights. One instance which I may give in proof thereof is this: after the passing of the Forest Act in the year 1882 and after the forest settlement took place, it was made clear to the people that so far as forests which were brought under the operation of the Act and which were controlled by the Government and reserved by them were concerned, all rights therein save those that had been conceded to them under the Act, belonged to the Government. That proposition had never been challenged by the Members of the Legislative Council though this Council has been in existence ever since, I suppose 1860, and though under the Minto-Morley Reforms Members had a larger voice than they had previously; and these immemorial rights had never been admitted by the Government. (An hon. Member: 'Question.') I assert that we have direct proof to show that these rights were rights granted by the Government in the year 1924, and

later on taken away because those rights have been abused. The concessions were abused in this sense. Government launched upon a policy of sylviculture, of development of the forests. As you would have noticed, this department, among the few such departments, is an earning department, one of those departments where the revenues are in excess of the expenditure. Not only from the great timbers that we have got therein, but in various other respects such as the grazing fees, etc., the department has been earning and the revenues go into the general revenues. When this is taken into consideration, any rights that are said to exist in these forests, any concessions that might have been granted, will have to be specifically proved and admitted. In the present case, the rights do not exist; only it has been found that the concessions granted in the year 1924 were abused. When it was found that such abuse was dangerous to the growth of the new forests and when it was found that deforestation had been going on and that it would be impossible to grow the forests unless some restraint was placed on the people who go there, under permit no doubt, with the idea of taking only a limited quantity of leaf but who remove enormous quantities thereof, these concessions had to be withdrawn. Instances have been known where valuable plants including sandalwood had been cut and stored up and later claimed as dry wood. Sir, this question has been fully gone into by a committee appointed by the Government consisting of the Collector of South Kanara and the District Forest Officer. That was the result of a petition presented by the Landholders' Association of South Kanara. But what happened was this: When these officers went to enquire, even the very officers of the Association to whom notices had been specifically given, would not make their appearance. On the other hand, the officers clearly found out that these concessions had been abused . . ."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" To whom was the notice given? "

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" To the Secretary of the Landholders' Association. I assert it had been given. Well, Sir, as these gentlemen did not appear before the Committee, the officers went into the forest, discovered that these concessions were being abused and that plenty of leaf manure had been stocked in the *pentas*, within the possession of the ryots. (Mr. Subrahmanya Bhatt: 'It belonged to the previous year.') My friend gives the explanation that it belonged to the previous year. But whether it was of that year or of the previous year, it is plain that they not only used it for that year but were able to hoard up something for the next year, and that fact alone clearly and conclusively shows that there has been a full supply. Whatever it be, it is not my intention to be in any way unsympathetic to the ryots of South Kanara. In the recent order passed by the Government, great care was taken to see that the grievance is minimized as much as possible. Only 17 forests have been refused this concession now; as regards the others, the concessions are still there. Even in these 17 forests, permits to take leaf manure are given by contractors of coupes, who charge, I think, about half an anna per load. When I mentioned this to one

of the hon. Members of this House, I think, that hon. Member agreed that it was not a hardship, and he thought it would relieve the poor people to a large extent. Even as regards the removal of these 2-45 p.m. concessions, it will be remembered that it is not absolutely necessary that we should stop them for all time. If the people should conduct themselves in such a way as not to destroy the forests, as not to abuse these concessions, there is nothing to prevent the Government from regranting these concessions. But before that is done, a case will have to be made out, and the Forest department must be convinced that the forests will not in any manner be affected by the action to be taken. Now, Sir, these are the criticisms, so far as I can gather, that have been levelled against the Forest department. Considering the meagre criticism that has been levelled, on the whole I take it that the work of the Forest department is appreciated in many respects except in those two I have just mentioned.

"Now, Sir, I come to the Law department. Here too, Sir, the grievances stated are very few indeed. We are told, for instance, that jurors and assessors are paid much less than witnesses attending civil courts, that they are unable to maintain their dignity and that the sum paid is so small that it is not enough even for their refreshments during midday. Well, Sir, I have already answered that point. In answer to a question put in this House, I have already pointed out that the State expects every citizen to assist it in the administration of justice. When it is remembered that it is the duty of the subject to serve as an assessor just as an honorary magistrate serves, I suppose it will be realized that it is not possible to go further. (Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: 'A starving ration?') Well, all of us are made of one stuff in this matter. We cannot help it. Simply because, one is appointed assessor, he cannot expect to make money out of it. However, that question will be referred to the District Judges, and if a sufficient case is made out, the matter will be sympathetically considered by the Government.

"The next question raised was about the insolvency proceedings. We are told that there have been more insolvency petitions in the courts and that something must be done either to improve the position or do something else. It has not been clearly stated what the Government are expected to do. For one thing, the Government are not responsible for the depression, and I believe it is the depression that is the cause of this increase in the number of insolvency petitions. Whatever it is, Government have been considering for some time, and one of the questions sent to the Special Officer in connexion with the Debt Conciliation Bill is about the suggestion regarding the improvement or simplification of the Insolvency Law. We have been in correspondence with the High Court, and when the replies are received, every attempt will be made to simplify the Insolvency Law, so that the creditors might not feel aggrieved in that matter. However, hon. Members will realize that it is certainly not the fault of the Government that these insolvency petitions should increase.

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"The important question raised perhaps, Sir, is about the stamp duty. About the year 1922, the Court Fees Act has been amended, and about 50 per cent increase has been effected in the court-fees. Well, Sir, as a lawyer of about thirty or thirty-five years' standing, I can sympathize with my lawyer Friends in this Council on the effects of this legislation, on the difficulty felt by the people in finding the necessary funds to finance their litigation and perhaps to pay enough to the profession. I sympathize with them. But if my hon. Friends who have been criticizing had been in this place, they would realize the difficulty of the Government. One hon. Member has said that there was a promise at the time that that was only a temporary measure and that it would be repealed at the earliest opportunity. Sir, I have tried my level best to find out if that promise is correct and ransacked the reports of Council Proceedings in 1922 to see if there was anything of the kind. I must say that no such promise has ever been made. On the other hand, when a reference was made to the supposed or imaginary promise, it was stated in reply on behalf of the Government that no such promise had ever been made. This is what Sir M. Krishnan Nayar said in the year 1931 in March during the Budget discussion:

'Some of my Friends, who spoke on this motion referred to an undertaking given by the Government that these enhanced duties will only be for a few years. I may be allowed, Sir, to correct this mistake. As a matter of fact, in 1922 when the Bill for enhancing these duties was under consideration in this House, a distinct amendment was moved in this Council for making the imposition of the additional duty only a temporary measure. At that time, when that amendment was discussed, both Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah and Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar spoke on that amendment on behalf of the Government, and both of them opposed that amendment, and by a majority of this Council that amendment was thrown out; so that it is not quite correct to say that there has been a promise or undertaking by the Government that these duties would be reduced.'

Similarly, in 1933, Sir M. Krishnan Nayar replying to my hon. Friends Sir Patro and Mr. Narasa Reddi who stated that the Government had made such a promise, said:

'My Friends, Sir Patro, Mr. Narasa Reddi, and one or two others stated that Government made a solemn promise that, when better financial times came, they would restore the original rates. If they will peruse the records of the Council proceedings of those days, they will find that in spite of requests made by non-official Members, the Government was careful enough not to make a promise to the effect that when better financial times came they would restore the original rates.'

"Sir, that does not however mean that if really our financial position becomes satisfactory or improves, Government would not be prepared to say that they would consider this matter of reducing these court-fees. But, Sir, how is it possible just now? Hon. Members of the Legislative Council want a remission in land revenue of three crores and reductions in taxes in several other directions in almost every department that I come across. They do not want to have revenue resettlements and in excise the revenue is attacked. With such a large reduction of crores and crores in the revenue, how is it possible to carry on the administration, I should like to know. After all, this is a matter of litigation. People will go to court only when there is a necessity.

Under those circumstances, when it is said that this will have to be reduced immediately and now, I must submit that it is not a possible task. Some hon. Members are under the impression that the revenues of the law courts have been increasing and that there has been a surplus. That again, Sir, is a mistake. I will just give to the House only one year's figures. In the year 1933–34, Rs. 146 lakhs was the income; in the following year 1934–35, it came down to Rs. 135 lakhs. There was thus a deficit of Rs. 10 lakhs, and the budget figure for 1935–36 also shows a reduction in the income from law courts. It will thus be seen that whereas the income has been falling, the expenditure is more than the income. It will not therefore be so easy for the Government to reduce perhaps the only source from which the courts will have to be maintained, namely, the court-fees. (Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: 'Is it not a fact that the High Court was the largest consumer of money?') Yes, Sir, I suppose that unless we pay the piper we cannot expect to hear music. In the administration of justice, if there are persons who are prepared to act as Honorary High Court Judges, perhaps it would be possible to make a reduction in expenditure. Whatever it may be, I contend from the figures before me that the administration of justice has not been paying at all and that the expenditure is more than the revenues by at least Rs. 10 lakhs a year. Therefore, it will not be possible until better days come and other sources of revenue have been suggested and are forthcoming. I do hope that in a year or two from now when the new Ministers take charge of these departments, when Provincial Autonomy prevails, it ought to be possible. At any rate, we will wait and see. I have been longing for the day when this large reduction in revenue asked for by hon. Members in Land Revenue, in Excise and in court-fees and in other directions would be possible. Now, I cannot see how such a reduction of six or seven crores in the revenue can be managed and at the same time how the State can render the service it is now rendering to the people. I hope I will live long enough to see the day when that object will be accomplished. That is so far as the law courts are concerned. Again, there is one other point in connexion with the law courts. One hon. Friend has asked why a reduction should not be made in the *ad valorem* fees. At least, my Friend, Mr. Muthu Chettiyar asked 'why not give up half the court-fee, make a refund of half the fee when the plaint has been returned and has not been re-presented?' There are in the Civil Courts Act provisions to that effect. So far as the Small Cause Court is concerned, there is a provision for that. Even in the Court Fees Act, there are certain provisions, by which for instance, when an appeal is presented and the appeal is allowed, half the court-fee will be returned. There are sections 13 to 15 of the Civil Courts Act which make provision for this. The only thing that does not appear in the Court Fees Act but which appears in the Civil Courts Act is that when a plaint has been returned or a compromise has been effected there is no provision for refund of half the court-fee. Here again, I will sympathize and am sympathizing with the people, and I hope that at the earliest opportunity when our revenues show an

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improvement—I hope it will be so in a year or two—when that day is reached,—let us hope that that day will be reached soon—certainly something will be done in that direction.

" Now, I have only to say a word about the Electricity department. Here I am exceedingly thankful to the hon. Members of the House for the general support they have given. One of my hon. Friends says that we are on firmer ground. I say we have more light. I am particularly grateful to the remarks that have been made by our esteemed Friend Mr. Langley and our eloquent Friend Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar and the Telugu orator Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. They have all been so good as to appreciate the work of the department, and may I also take this opportunity here again of saying a word about the officer who has brought our electric system to the present condition in this province. When the Pykara scheme was thought of, it was originally intended that it should be worked on a contract system. But as soon as Major Howard took charge of the department, he thought that he could do better and did it better; not only did he do it well below the estimate, not only did he finish the work long before the time expected for finishing it, but also the revenues, as hon. Members are aware, have gone beyond all conception. They have been doubled and trebled, with the result that what we expected would be coming within ten years has been realized in three years. I think, Sir, in fact the whole credit is due to him and to the officers that have worked under him so well, so efficiently and so satisfactorily. Nor shall I forget the exceedingly great help which my Hon. Colleague the Finance Member has given; but for his support and consent to give funds, perhaps we would have been where we were. And whatever might have been the strong grip that he held over the finances—he has a tight grip over it always, when the electric light was shed upon it, that grip was loosened and funds were furnished to the satisfaction of that department.

" One word more, about this electricity. I do remember the complaints made from the Telugu districts, that all the electricity that is now being produced by the Government under the Pykara Scheme or that may hereafter be produced under the Mettur-Project will be utilized for the use of the southern districts. But we have not been idle so far as the northern districts are concerned. Almost every municipality in the north has got its electricity or is going to have it very soon. The question has been raised and my esteemed Friend, Mr. Raman Menon asked why these private licences should be granted and why you should not wait for the day when the Government may be in a position to supply at least in bulk to the various bodies which are now distributing this electricity. Sir, even in that matter, the Government have not been keeping idle. In fact, it has been part of the policy of the Government that wherever there is a municipality or district board willing and ready to undertake the work, licence will be given to that body in preference to private contractors, whether individuals or com- 3 p.m.

panics. As for waiting for sufficient time when the Government will be able to supply their own electricity, hon. Members will see that it is not easy, I don't say it is impossible, to see when that object could be reached. It may be many years, it may mean decades; instead of waiting till then, Government have thought it best that the licences should be given and especially municipalities and district boards should be encouraged so that they may have their own plant to supply electricity to their citizens. Clauses are introduced under this licence in the Act by which when Government is able to supply electricity these bodies will be bound to receive it from the Government source. So far as the south is concerned that is possible. So far as the north is concerned, there is still another scheme suggested by Major Howard the idea underlying which is stated to be that a central power station may be constructed somewhere in Bezwada with a view to supply electricity to the distant places right up to the Godavari, and on the other side as far as Guntur and beyond. So that, those who have plant to-day and who have been generating their own electricity would be in a position to receive electricity supplied by Government. That question is under the consideration of the Government, and our best attention will be given to it and every effort will be made to see that electricity is supplied to as many cities as possible.

"Sir, I have said enough and with your permission I will repeat what I said already, that I have always considered that any country which has no electricity, not merely for domestic consumption but for the purpose of helping industries, working factories and so on, any country without these, does not deserve the name of civilized country. That principle has always been kept in mind, and every effort will be made as far as it lies within the power of the Government and as far as the resources permit, to achieve that end."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise mainly to offer my thanks to the hon. Members of this House for the silent tribute which they have paid to the principal department under my control, namely, the Police. There are occasions when silence is more elequent than the most fervid oration, and this is one such. Obviously, Sir, the Police have been so conducting themselves as to give the impression to the public that they are the real servants of the public and people have also come to realize that the Police department is an utilitarian service, meant mainly for defending and protecting the interests of the people, and I feel sure that heartened by the attitude which this Honourable House has adopted they would carry on the good work which they have done in the past with greater enthusiasm and greater zeal for the better welfare of the people. I may perhaps also state, Sir, that the attitude of the Council towards the Police department would furnish the best answer to the critics of the Joint Parliamentary Report, those critics who visualize danger by the transference of the Police department to the control of responsible Ministers in the future Government.

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" Turning now to the one or two suggestions which have been made by hon. Members of the House, about the other departments under my control, I would begin by referring to the suggestion made by the hon. Member for Bellary, for provision being made for rescue homes in connexion with the enforcement of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act. In that connexion I would only refer to the communiqué which was issued soon after the passing of the Act on the 13th February 1932, wherein the Government have set forth their policy in this matter. That policy is as follows: 'At present they have not money to spare for an object, however deserving, for which it is normally the business of private charity to provide.' I am afraid, Sir, that our financial position from 1932 has not improved to such an extent as to enable the Government to change its policy. And the experience we have had during the last few years does not enable me to give out hopes or to state that there would be much advantage in the Government starting rescue homes even if finances immediately permitted it. With reference to the various places in which this Act has been brought into force, it is only in the City of Madras that arrangements have been made for the establishment of these rescue homes and for receiving therein young girls for whom there is legal provision for being admitted into them. We have had in Madras for the last one year three homes in which these young girls below 18 years can be received. There has been provision for at least as many as 20 girls, but as a matter of fact we have found that within a period of 12 months there have been just two girls sent to these homes, and of these two, one had to be released under the orders of the High Court. Even for the small provision that we have made, there is not sufficient number coming forward and I am not quite sure whether the Government will be well advised in investing any money that it can find in starting these homes before we know the actual need for them.

" Turning to the criticisms offered by the representatives of the depressed classes, headed by the doughty champion and veteran leader, Rao Bahadur Srinivasan, may I state with the experience of one who himself belongs to a minority community and who was not afraid of urging the necessity for special safeguards and privileges for minority communities, and also with the experience of one who has been at the Bar for a period of 20 years may I with due respect state that it never pays an advocate of a cause to overshoot his mark or to put forth too high a demand. Not that the representatives of the depressed classes in this House have been overextravagant in their demands. I should have expected, however, at least one word of appreciation from their leader for the work which has been done during the last 14 years on behalf of these depressed classes and for very nearly three-quarter crore of rupees which has been spent in their interests. As regards the concrete criticism which was offered by Rao Bahadur Srinivasan, he began by saying that the depressed classes did not derive the full benefit of the Government Order which set apart certain lands for being assigned to members of his community. His complaint was that

in certain cases when lands had been assigned by the officers of the Revenue department, it was ultimately found that those lands had been registered under the pattas of private individuals and the claims of those objectors were upheld. I really am not able to see any cause of complaint in this particular matter. Certain lands no doubt were set apart for being assigned, and if by a mistake the lands which stood under the pattas of private owners happened to be so classified and if that mistake was at a subsequent stage found out, it seems to me but reasonable that the rightful owners' rights should be upheld in preference to any claim that a member of the depressed classes could put forward by reason merely of the assignment order.

" As regards again the question of starting schools for the depressed classes, the policy of the Labour department has been set forth in detail in the communiqué which was issued just a few months back, that policy being to have members of the depressed classes admitted into the existing schools if such admission could be had. I believe the members of the depressed classes themselves would not thank the Government, if as a matter of principle and policy, whether provision or accommodation was available in the adjacent schools or not, separate schools were started wherein the depressed classes people would be segregated and given no opportunity for associating with others.

" One fear which the hon. Member gave expression to was, that if these schools into which admission was found for these pupils happened to be mission schools, they ran the danger of being converted, whereby the numerical importance of the community would diminish. In reply to that, I can only say that myself being a Christian I have had experience of these mission schools. Mission schools are run by the Roman Catholic or Protestant missions and if they had made it the object of their opening schools merely to convert the pupils under their care, the Christian community in this Province would not be at the very low figure which it is to-day. And without meaning any the slightest offence, I am sure the hon. Member was not quite charitable when he said that the mission schools were being started and used merely for the purpose of converting these pupils to the Christian faith. I can assure him that getting admission for them into the mission schools is not going in any way to endanger their numerical strength, and the pupils will come out of them as better men and better citizens. And
-15 it is only in places where it is not possible to find accommodation for
.m. these depressed classes in private aided schools whether Mission or non-Mission, or in local board schools, that the department starts labour schools. At this juncture I might refer to the statement made by the leader of the Justice Democratic Party, Mr. K. P. Raman Menon. He said that the education of the depressed classes should be treated as a separate department just as the European education is treated. I should just like to point out the slight difference between the education of the depressed classes and the education of the Europeans. The education of the Europeans has to be under a separate department altogether for this reason: that the sort, the kind and the nature of the education

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imparted in European schools is different from the kind of education that is imparted in our Indian schools. That distinction will not apply in the case of schools for castemen and the schools for depressed classes. Therefore, I would submit that the analogy between the education for Europeans and Anglo-Indians and the education for the depressed classes does not hold good. But that does not mean that we are treating the education of the depressed classes exactly on the same level as the education of the other caste communities. Because in places where, as I said, it is not found possible to get admission to existing schools, the District Labour Officer, who is specially deputed to look after the interests not merely of education but also of the economic betterment of the depressed classes, goes into the question and, in consultation with the educational authorities, decides upon the location of the schools, the standard up to which the schools might be established, the teachers that are to be employed there and other matters. And when once a school is established, it is not left to the supervision merely of the Education department. The District Labour Officer makes it a part of his duty to periodically inspect these schools and has it really as part of his work subject, of course, to the general supervision and advice of the expert educational authorities. Therefore, Sir, I would say that the education *of the depressed classes is certainly being looked after properly* and cared for.

" Again, Sir, in the starting of co-operative societies for the depressed classes, the hon. Member complained about those societies being transferred to the control and supervision of the regular Co-operative department and not being kept under the District Labour Officer. Here again, I have to state that the starting of these societies at their earlier stages is done really by the District Labour Officer, but when once a society is well established, experience has shown that, for the better working of it, it is safer and better to leave it into the hands of the Co-operative department itself whose men are specially trained for the task and who therefore are able to guide these societies on much safer and more useful lines than the District Labour Officers who are, after all, amateurs in this task of running co-operative societies. Therefore, Sir, I would submit that the Government would not be doing the right thing by the depressed classes if they change this policy of having them under the Co-operative department over which my Hon. Friend the Minister for Public Works presides and put them under the control exclusively of the Labour department.

" Lastly, Sir, I come to a point which is certainly vital from the point of view of the depressed classes, namely, the question of Service. The chief complaint of the hon. Member Rao Bahadur Srinivasan was this: that the number of people who are classified under the depressed classes was originally 14, that it has now been raised to 84, and that therefore the number of places available have to be distributed among a larger number of persons. May I once again suggest to the hon. Member to have a bit of charity? True, the depressed classes must take care and safeguard their own interests, but he must not forget that the depressed classes are not confined to the district round about the place

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where he lives, and that the names of the depressed classes are not confined only to those communities whose names he is aware of. There are depressed classes under various designations and various names in various parts of the presidency. I can state it on good authority, Sir, that all the 84 sub-communities that have been included in the list and who are to-day brought in under the category of scheduled classes, have at least this thing in common with the depressed classes of Madras and round about, that they are all untouchables; that at least not many of the 84 can even be classified as touchable. And if they are considered for social purposes as untouchables, can we not, Sir, logically treat them as members of the depressed classes, members who are entitled to special protection and privileges as much as the hon. Member Mr. Srinivasan himself? And would I be wrong if I ask him to extend his hand of helpfulness to and also take under the protective wings of his leadership those 84 sub-communities which are scattered over the whole province? With the hope that he will do that and thereby enable the Labour department, with his aid, to work all the better, I resume my seat."

* The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—" Mr. President, Sir, when I heard these last two speeches, I did wish that I was either the Law Member or the Home Member; because, although this is my first speech of, let us say, importance in this House, every hon. Member seems to have had his knife into me. (Laughter) I hope, Sir, that the knife is not meant personally for me (cries of 'No, no') but for the unfortunate Revenue department. (Renewed laughter.)

" Well, criticisms have been many and varied; and if I were to go into great detail, I am afraid I should not be giving my remaining Hon. Colleagues much time to reply to the debate. I propose therefore to refer firstly to certain matters of detail which have been raised by various hon. Members and afterwards discuss as briefly as their importance warrants the very large questions which have been generally raised.

" As regards details, the first point was raised by my hon. Friend Sir A. P. Patro in which he said that the kistbundi now established was inconvenient and worked hardship on the ryots. During the last few years when I have been in charge of the Revenue department either on the Board of Revenue or here, the question of this kistbundi, I can assure the hon. Members of this House, has been under discussion three or four times and we have taken every fact possible into consideration before we determined the months in which the assessment should be paid; and I do not think, unless in any particular case it can be shown that there is real hardship, that we can do very much better than we are doing now.

" The next point which I should like to discuss is the Tungabhadra Project to which several hon. Members referred. Now, Sir, here I entirely sympathize with the inhabitants of the Ceded districts. For many years I have held the opinion that in those districts in particular we ought, if possible, to spend more money and it always has been the

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intention of the Government to carry out a scheme there which will ameliorate their condition. Unfortunately the Madras Government in this matter was not the only Government concerned. There are two if not three other Governments who lay claim to the waters of the Tungabhadra and, until we can come to some amicable or other settlement with those Governments, it is impossible for the Madras Government to carry on by itself. The House has already been informed that recently we have addressed the Government of India to settle this matter by an Inter-State Commission. We hope they will agree to it and, if that comes off, the question of the Tungabhadra Project will be carried on as expeditiously as this Government possibly can. There was one remark regarding that project made by my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar which I was not able to understand. He said that in this year's Budget no provision had been made of any kind for expenditure in connexion with that project. I do not think he can have read the Budget very carefully, as I see that at least Rs. 33,000 has been allotted in the Budget for gaugings and for carrying on soil survey. We hope to finish the soil survey by about September this year. The gaugings which will go on for a year after that are very necessary indeed in order that we should know the exact quantity of water which passes our boundary and ultimately the proportion of it to which the Madras Government shall be entitled.

"The next point was a complaint that the Andhra portion of the province has been less generously treated in the matter of expenditure on irrigation than the Tamil portion. This complaint was raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Kesavaramamurti. I do not think myself that this has any basis in fact. If we exclude a very special work, the Mettur Project, I find from the sanctioned estimates for irrigation works that some Rs. 58 lakhs have been allotted to the Andhra districts, but only Rs. 35 lakhs have been allotted to the Tamil districts. That I think will answer that point.

"Next, my hon. Friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar asked that the Chingleput district should be given some special concession—on what grounds I do not know. (Laughter). Because Chingleput is usually in the matter of irrigation one of the most favoured districts in the presidency, I do not see any reason why it should have any more special concessions than, say, Bellary or Anantapur.

"Then, Sir, came rather the large question of the Famine Code. Several hon. Members such as Messrs. Rameswara Rao, Koti Reddi and Ramaswami Ayyar criticized this code. Mr. Koti Reddi went so far as to say that it should be overhauled from top to bottom. It is a Government of India Code, and its amendment must finally rest with them. But I do not think its provisions do need extensive overhauling. If any specific suggestion is made and if there is any particular part on which amendment is necessary, this Government will always be prepared to see whether such an amendment can be made.

"As to one or two points of detail, the question has been raised as to supply of fodder. I have already during the time of questions and

answers given most of the information which I think my Friend Mr. Rameswara Rao wants. The Board of Revenue, as I said this morning, has issued orders to the Collector that he should not confine himself to the 1 cwt. per person but should also take into consideration the requirements of milch cattle and so on.

" Then the question raised was as regards the salt concession. I understand from the Collector of Customs who is the authority for making these concessions, that they have been already granted to the whole of Anantapur district and five taluks in Bellary."

A voice: " ' What about Cuddapah? '."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER :—" Cuddapah has not been mentioned. Cuddapah is at present not under famine conditions. But at the same time I would add a word of warning. These concessions were granted some time ago and had to be taken away mainly because the Upparas to whom Mr. Rameswara Rao referred had abused them by making salt-making an industry and were carrying on their trade all over the country; and I have no doubt, the Collector of Customs, if these concessions are again abused in the same way, will withdraw them.

" The next point which was brought forward by Mr. Peddi Raju was that West Godavari has not been treated generously in the matter of drainage. I do not think that is a very fair statement. The amount of money spent on irrigation in West Godavari is much larger than in most districts in the presidency and even in the matter of drainage, a large amount has been spent on the Yenamadurru drain which is probably more than what has been spent on most of the drains in the presidency. He also referred to the question of dredgers and said that although provision was made last year no dredger was bought. That is true. The reason is that we found that if we got our dredgers wholesale we could get them at a cheaper price. This year we have placed orders for two dredgers at a cheaper price, the order has been placed and we hope that delivery will be completed by September next.

" Then, Sir, one or two Members referred to the zamindars. I must say I was astonished at the slight reference made to them by hon. Members opposite. My hon. Friend Mr. Muthu Chettiyar was for reducing the peishkash, whereas my hon. Friends Messrs. Bhatt and Devadasan were for getting more money out of them and the only way of getting more money according to them is this: that we should put some surcharge, some tax of some kind on their peishkash. Perhaps hon. Members of this House are not aware what the total amount of peishkash of this presidency is. It comes to just under 50 lakhs annually. If we put a surcharge on this sum, it will have to be a very large one before it produces any appreciable effect on our general revenues. It seems to me that to adopt this policy will be useless.

" Then, Sir, a complaint was made that there was a large extent of waste lands which remain uncultivated and that Government should

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first reclaim these lands and then grant them to applicants. I do not think, Sir, that position can be maintained. It is not the duty of the Government to reclaim lands for bringing them to cultivation. If we grant waste lands for cultivation and if money is required to bring them to suit cultivation we always postpone, sometimes for five or more years, the imposition of assessment on those lands in order to enable the ryots to make them suitable for cultivation.

"The last point of detail which I think may be mentioned is the complaint of my hon. Friend Mr. Nanjappa that land had not been given in sufficient quantity to ex-army men. When talking to him he informed me that his complaint was with reference to certain specific cases and I informed him if he would let me know what those cases were I would certainly look into them, and see that matters were set right.

"Now, Sir, I come to the larger issues raised, firstly the question of remissions, secondly our revenue system and thirdly retrenchment.

"As regards remissions, during the last ten days we have discussed the question at length. It has been held with a certain amount of reason that the granting of remissions seems to be inconsistent with our resettlement policy to which I will refer later when I discuss the land revenue policy. But granting that our land revenue policy is correct, we have under the Board's Standing Orders ample provision for seasonal remissions which will cover the ordinary vicissitudes of the season. Exceptional remissions have been granted for the last three years. As I said, I will deal with the question of resettlement when I deal with the general question of the land revenue system, but certainly there can be no question that the resolution of this House asking for $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent remission, plus total remissions in the Ceded districts plus remission of the enhancements of the resettlements in the past can never be accepted by any responsible Government if that Government is to function. I think that the Press Communiqué which the Government issued recently sufficiently covers the ground and answers the criticisms which have been levelled against this Government for not accepting the resolutions of this Council.

"Now, Sir, I come to our land revenue system and here, if I may say so, a very weighty speech came from my hon. Friend, Mr. Langley. He said in specific terms that no land revenue system which had to depend upon large remissions could possibly be sound. I think that is the position he stated. That involves of course a definite criticism of our present system which with your permission I will now attempt to answer. First of all, I have to notice the complete absence of any reference by this House to the matter of rents in the zamindari areas. I fully expected frequent allusion to it, but heard none. But it has a material bearing on our discussion. Do hon. Members by their silence mean to contend that the position of the ryots in the zamindari areas is better than that of the ryots in ryotwari areas?

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(*A voice: 'It is worse.'*) If it was worse, why was it not mentioned? (*Voices: 'We have said it hundred times.'*) Now they do say that is worse. Yet they have not criticized those cents and a fair conclusion is that the land revenue assessment is not nearly so bad as they try to make out. But apart from that I do not propose to justify our land revenue system solely on a comparison with something which is worse. Sir, this system has been based on a system which has been in force in India for some 400 years. The system I think therefore seems to be suited to India. During the 19th century, that system has been modified by the introduction of settlements and resettlements and I think the criticism which has been levelled at it is mainly with reference to these settlements and resettlements. I quite see a certain amount of reason in the claim that when the Government has seen fit to grant large remissions, it is illogical that in the same years resettlements should have been introduced. But, Sir, that does not go to the root of the question. Our settlements and resettlements are based on averages; that, Sir, must be carefully kept in mind. These averages are intended to and do cover years of high prices and years of low prices. For instance, the low prices of the last three years will be taken into consideration when the resettlement of districts comes off within the next few years and those districts will get the benefit of it; those averages are intended to cover variations in prices. With regard to settlement or resettlement, the fault is not with us; the fault is with those people who own lands, who had the benefits of high prices and who had not foreseen how the assessment was to be paid in lean years. Any prudent man would have set aside a certain proportion of that large increase of income which he got in those fat years, to pay what assessment he might possibly have to pay in lean years. I do not blame the ryots; it is human nature to behave as they did. Just after the war, the same thing happened in England: people who had never aspired to such a thing before bought pianos which they could not play, because they had money to spare; afterwards they found they could not sell them, for money was scarce. In the same way I do know that in some of the districts with which I am myself acquainted, many ryots did not know what to do with the money they had; they built houses in some of the larger towns, quitted their villages and lived most of the time in the larger towns. (*A voice: 'They followed the example of the Government.'*) Possibly, Sir. But the Government did not spend their money in a mode of living to which they were not accustomed before. The basic principle after all is our settlements and resettlements are based on averages. At one time in England there was land tax. It was found that this land tax—unlike in India—lay heavily on a comparatively small portion of the population; in India it falls upon 73 per cent of the population. It was found that to continue the land tax was not advisable, for it came from only a small number to whom the burden was too great; they substituted another tax which they thought would fall on a larger number of the members of society. They taxed beer. That again was found to be illusive and they had to impose another tax.

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They introduced succession duties and death duties. Now, Sir, if this Presidency wants to scrap land revenue as now assessed, is it prepared to adopt succession duties and death duties? I am pretty sure that the Government which would propose such a suggestion would not long remain in power.

" Various suggestions have been made as to how the system of land revenue should be changed. Reference was made to the experiment which, I understand, is now being made in the Punjab. I have called for details of it, and until they are received I cannot say anything definite about it. But, if what I have seen from the newspapers is correct, that experiment comes to this; you so fix your land assessment, that if prices go down, you demand less and if they go up, you get no more. In other words indirectly you are introducing permanent settlement which, I am pretty well certain, most of the people in this country at any rate after responsible Government is brought into this country would never accept. In effect, as I read the proposal in the Punjab, it is an indirect method of introducing permanent settlement, and it allows for no expansion for revenue. *Prima facie* without knowing the details, it seems to me that the experiment in the Punjab would be very dangerous in Madras.

" Then, Sir, Mr. Sreshta proposed that we should go back to payment of assessment in kind. Can hon. Members imagine the Government of Madras as the largest wholesale dealers in paddy in the Presidency? I have only got to put it in that way to show how preposterous the idea is to attempt to go back to payment in kind.

" The next proposal was that there should be taxes on agricultural incomes. If hon. Members think that a tax on agricultural incomes is going to be any the cheaper than the present administration, I think they are completely wrong. A far larger staff would be required and the amount of inquisition would make it very distasteful to every ryot. I need not go in detail into the difficulties of working any such system. They seem obvious. We must, I think, rule it out once for all. That is what I have got to say with reference to the general land revenue system. My contention is that so far as the system in the Presidency goes, it is a reasonable system, and suited to the country. If it is found that our resettlement policy does inflict grievances on the ryots, I have no doubt at all that the responsible Government which will come within the next 18 months' time (Voices: 'So long?') or say two years' time, will alter it suitably. But I very much doubt whether they will and speaking for myself I think there is little that is wrong with our present system.

" My last point is as regards retrenchment. In this connexion there is the astounding statement of Sir A. P. Patro that the proportion of expenses of collection in this Presidency is three times greater than that in any other Province in India. First of all, as hon. Members know, it is very difficult to get an exact idea of what the actual cost of our collection is. I have figures here to show that the percentage of the

total cost of collecting revenue to the total revenue is in the Punjab 76·4 per cent, in Bombay 44·5 per cent, in Bengal 40·8 per cent and in Bihar and Orissa 36·2 per cent. I may point out that of the four Provinces, Bombay, Bengal and Bihar and Orissa are deficit Provinces. The Madras ratio is only 34·5 per cent, and below is comes Assam—a small Province—with 31·6 per cent, then the United Provinces, with 29·7 per cent. The fact is that for the size of a Presidency such as ours, the proportionate cost of expenses for collection of revenue is comparatively small. I must go on with the question of retrenchment. If the House only knew the amount of care and thought that was expended on retrenchment when it was found that we had to retrench, I do not think that it would consider it necessary to go into the question again. I know that the Board of Revenue examined practically every firka, every division and every district in the Presidency and we cut down where we could and sometimes where we could not. The consequence was in some of these cases, it was found impossible to carry on the administration and in some cases we had to restore; but even so, all that we had to restore was only 20½ lakhs. Our total permanent cut in expenditure comes to Rs. 143·72 lakhs out of our total revenue of something like Rs. 17 crores. It is pretty well 8 per cent; that cut extends everywhere; and it does not include the cut in salaries. The cut in salaries altogether in all services came to only about Rs. 38 lakhs, a very small portion of the total cuts that the Government were able to carry out. I notice, Sir, that there was some objection to the Madras Government restoring the cuts on salaries. If the cut is not to be restored, we should have to get the sanction of the Secretary of State. I am pretty certain that it would not be granted. Deficit Provinces like Bengal, Bombay, etc., have restored the old pay. Why should not the Madras Government which have balanced budgets restore the cut? I do not for a moment think or hope that I have persuaded the House to think that our land revenue assessment is fair and equitable. Personally I think that it is not unfair; I do not say that in certain instances, it may not hit hard this class or that; possibly it does. But as a general working system I very much doubt whether you will be able to point out or devise a system which will work with greater fairness towards all classes of society than the present revenue system."

p.m. * The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, in the general discussions on the Budget this year, as in the past two or three years, subjects on the Transferred side have not had their usual share of criticisms. The attention of hon. Members of this House has been almost entirely lavished on two of our Hon. Colleagues, the Hon. the Revenue Member and the Hon. the Finance Member. Even to the few observations that have been made on the subjects dealt with by me, I am afraid I shall not have time to attempt any replies in detail. I shall therefore have necessarily to make my reply very brief, and I am sure hon. Members of the House will bear with me if the limitations of time make it necessary for me to do so.

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" Taking first the subject of Education, several hon. Members, Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai, Mr. Devadasan and others, referred to the problem of the ever-increasing unemployment among the educated classes and the need for the remodelling of the present educational system so as to remedy this evil. I am not going to say anything in detail on this problem about which so much has been said but yet so little has been done. The only point which I wish to mention to hon. Members of this House is that, thanks to the deliberations and recommendations of the Inter-University Board, the question has been taken up by the Government of India and they are in consultation with Local Governments as to how the present system of education can be revised so as to enable people who receive that education to secure employment more easily than now. I hope when this examination is finished, something will be devised to mitigate at least in some measure this very serious evil of unemployment. This is one of the main questions which I find have been referred to in the course of the discussions.

" My hon. Friend Sir Patro said that sufficient attention was not being paid to vocational training. If by vocational training he meant, as I think he did, manual training, I do not think he is right in making this criticism. I may mention for his information and for the information of hon. Members of this House who do not know it already, that manual training is now included in the B group of the S.S.L.C. scheme. Subjects in the B group are compulsory and therefore it has become necessary for every student in the S.S.L.C. course of education to have some manual training as part of the curriculum. But if by ' vocational training ' he meant training for some particular trade or occupation, I must differ from him and say that it is no part of the general education imparted in ordinary schools, to give such training at all. It is for technical schools or schools of technology to give such education, and that is being done.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Bhatt, was, I am afraid, somewhat hard on managers of aided schools, but I am sorry to say that his criticisms were based on inadequate or incorrect information to a very large extent. He is not right in saying that buildings of schools and equipments in schools which have been brought into existence with Government grants become the absolute property of the managers and that they deal with them as they like. It is not so. A building which has been put up for a school with Government grant has to be used as a school, and if it is not so used, the manager has to refund the amount which has been paid by Government as grant. The same kind of agreement is taken from managers with regard to equipment also. If my hon. Friend is in possession of information with regard to any particular cases in which the buildings or equipments have been diverted to purposes other than educational, I shall certainly be very thankful to him for that information and take steps to recover the amounts from the offending managers.

" Again, Sir, some hon. Members, notably the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Subbarayan and my friend Mr. Srinivasan, repeated the criticism which they advanced at the time the Elementary Education

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Act Amending Bill was under discussion in this Council recently. They still seem to entertain the apprehension that the new form of compulsion which has been introduced in that Bill will scare away students from schools. The opinion of an hon. gentleman like Dr. Subbarayan who has administered the Department of Education for four years would ordinarily be entitled to consideration; but I regret to have to say that he quoted as his authority the opinion of a newspaper which he did not name. If it was his independent judgment and if he had, after a careful examination of the provisions of the Bill come to that conclusion, then I should have had greater respect for his criticism. I wonder if the writer of that article which he referred to ever took the trouble to keep by his side the original Act and the Amending Bill and compared the provisions in these two enactments so as to see what the changes in the Amending Bill were. I have to say with regret that most of the critics of this Bill have not done this. It is no doubt a difficult operation, and I can certainly sympathize with them for not having done so. Well, Sir, as I explained, this criticism is altogether unjustifiable, and I should have thought that the Director of Public Instruction who sat in this House as an expert member when this Bill was under consideration, set at rest all such fears by the lucid speech that he made on the occasion of the discussions on that Bill. Sir, I shall not detain the House any further with my remarks on the criticisms that were advanced on the work of the department of Education.

"Turning now to the Industries Department, several hon. Members referred to the need for aiding cottage industries and referred to the work of the Special Officer who was appointed some years ago to investigate the condition of the cottage industries and to suggest measures for their improvement. I should say they are not right in supposing that the Government have entirely failed to take any action on the recommendations of the Special Officer. It is no doubt true that large schemes which involve additional expenditure have not been and could not be undertaken; but cottage industries have been helped by the Government in various ways. I propose, with your leave, Sir, to mention just a few of the directions in which cottage industries have been helped in recent years. Aid has been given under the State Aid to Industries Act; that Act was amended sometime ago so as to make it possible to give loans to cottage industries which it was not possible to do under the Act as it stood originally. As hon. Members may remember, by an amending Bill which was passed only the other day, it has become possible now for the Government to give aid in the shape of supply of electric energy on favourable terms to these industries. Again, Sir, demonstrations are being held now on labour-saving appliances. I would not enumerate the labour-saving appliances which are now being demonstarted. Suffice it to say there are quite a number of them; and the staff is being employed to assist industrial people in their operations. I may also say that the one great need with regard to these cottage industries is to give them facilities for marketing. That question has been engaging the attention of the Government for sometime, and now from this

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year, they are giving a subsidy of Rs. 3,000 to the Victoria Technical Institute who are already engaged in this work of selling the products of cottage industries in this province. They are to appoint an agent in England and through the agency of that individual, the products of our cottage industries, I hope, will find an easier market hereafter. I would also bring to the notice of hon. Members that most of the recommendations of the Special Officer who investigated the question of these cottage industries related to the development of the hand-loom weaving industry. With regard to this particular industry, I may mention that the Government of India have now started measures to give help to the hand-loom weavers in all the provinces. They have promised to give a fairly large sum this year, of Rs. 26,500, and they are going to repeat it in future years. In 1935–36, the amount promised by them is Rs. 59,500. The object of this subsidy which they have promised to give is generally to better organize and improve the hand-loom weaving industry in this province, and in particular to develop co-operative buying and selling on behalf of the hand-loom weavers. The scheme which has been submitted by this Government has received the approval of the Government of India and will be brought into operation at a very early date.

" Similarly, with regard to sericulture they have promised a grant and the scheme on which that amount is proposed to be used has also been submitted to the Government of India and their approval is awaited. As I said, the recommendations of the committee and the Special Officer who were engaged in the investigation of the cottage industries mostly related to the hand-loom weaving industry and when these schemes are put into operation, we shall have made a considerable advance in our object of aiding these hand-loom weavers.

" My hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai, with all his knowledge and experience gained as Director of Industries, made a very interesting and instructive speech on the subject of Industries. I have been benefited very much by what he has said; if he still continued to hold that high office of Director of Industries, I am sure he would have prepared for me an effective reply in defence of what the Government are doing. However, his observations will certainly be borne in mind and the difficulties that stand in the way of the development of these industries will be overcome as much as possible, as far as our financial position will permit.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, referred to some subjects; but I am sorry I have not got much time to deal with all of them. I may only mention the question of research in oils. That question is already engaging the attention of the Government. The Kerala Soap Institute is being continued for the purpose of making this research.

" There are several other points, Sir, on which I should like to make observations; but as I have not got much time at my disposal and as there are three more speakers to come after me, and especially the Hon. the Finance Member whom I am sure all hon. Members are very anxious to hear, I shall here cut short my observations."

-15 .m. * The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, criticisms against the departments in my charge have been few and I should have welcomed more of them with a view to benefit by the information given by hon. Members gathered here from various parts of the Presidency, but when people indulge in personal remarks, persons like myself find it very difficult to answer them because it involves descending to a low level. If I do make any reference to these, it is not so much from a personal aspect, but more with a view to maintain the dignity of this House where I have been for the last fourteen years and where high traditions have always been developed and maintained. Though I can afford to ignore those remarks and treat them with contempt, I would appeal to all sections of the House to see that such personal remarks are deprecated.

" Sir, coming to the points raised by hon. Members, my Friend, Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai, said that officers in the Co-operative Department have not been favourable to the depressed classes for the reason that the Depressed Classes Federation was not registered by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. Sir, I cannot say off-hand what exactly has happened, but if the Registrar has not registered the Federation, it is open to them to put in an appeal to the Government who will certainly go into the matter very carefully and if valid reasons are not given by the Registrar, surely Government will consider the case with sympathy. He then referred to the Marketing Officer having visited Ooty and having met members of societies and not individuals. I believe the officer went there at the invitation of the potato growers associations and he met them there. I believe he has taken steps to see that manure was made available to the potato growers of those societies. When the Marketing Officer visits the Nilgiris next time, he will take the opportunity to meet all those interested in agriculture and especially members of this Council.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, has stated that the department has not done propaganda in his district as regards commercial crops, especially sugarcane. Propaganda in this direction has been carried on by my Department and I shall draw the attention of the Director of Agriculture to the remarks of my hon. Friend.

" Then, my Friend, Mr. Devadasan, said that encouragement should be given to people by way of fruit culture, poultry farming and dairy farming. As far as poultry farming is concerned, in Hosur farm, Government sell the best birds possible at reasonable rates, so that people might take to this form of industry. And as regards dairy farming, a course has been instituted in the Agriculutral College, Coimbatore. It can be taken advantage of both by the students and those who want to undergo the training. As regards fruit culture, whenever help and advice are sought for, the department has given them freely. The Government hope ere long to open a fruit cultivation centre in Cuddapah, thus making their experience and advice available to all who want advice in respect of fruit culture.

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" Sir, my Friend, Mr. R. Srinivasan, referred to the present state of the co-operative societies meant for the depressed classes. Government are treating them with every possible consideration, and as has been pointed out by my hon. Friend, the Home Member, those depressed class societies, except the Kallar societies, have been transferred to the Co-operative Department so that that department will do all that is possible through the officers of the department who have got special training in such work.

" Again, Sir, some of the members referred to lack of programme, for instance, a five-year or ten-year programme, and instanced the case of Soviet Russia, Italy and Germany. My hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, also referred to the use of electrically treated plants with reference to agriculture in Russia. Most of the Members seem to forget the fact that this Government is a subordinate Government, and as such, in the first instance, have no control over the tariffs and secondly, freights. It must be remembered that in those countries they have got at the helm of affairs, men who issue their fiat and see that it is carried out. Here it is very difficult. As a matter of fact, I have been persuading some of the leading ryots to try and carry out agricultural operations in certain villages on a community and co-operative basis and people are not willing to come forward, though they have been offered assistance both by the Departments of Agriculture and Co-operation. As such, it is very difficult, unless Government are in a position to force people to do what is best for them, to achieve results in a short time. It is a question of persuasion, and I can assure hon. Members of this House that the officers of the Agricultural Department and the Co-operative Department are doing their level best to induce people to go in for better methods of agriculture, better seeds, etc.

" There is one other point to which I should like to refer briefly and that is the position of the Co-operative Department. Stress was laid on the lack of non-credit activities of the movement. It is true, even on the credit side of the movement, the whole difficulty seems to be that proper men do not come forward to work these societies. As a matter of fact, most of the Central Banks have asked Government to lend the services of their departmental officers. And in such of the non-credit activities as have been started with the help of the Government, so long as Government officers were doing the work, they functioned properly and the moment Government control was withdrawn, those societies ceased to function. So, it will be seen that it is the difficulty of want of men that stands in the way of the movement being put to greater use than anything else. I would only request hon. Members to give their co-operation and if they say in what directions things should be done, taking into consideration the local conditions, I will only be too glad to consider their suggestions and give effect to any such programme which will go to better the lot of the agriculturists of this province."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Mr. President, Sir, as in the previous year, I find that hon. Members have devoted most of the time at their disposal to the discussion of the economic situation. Therefore I find there is not much to reply to hon. Members with reference

to the departments under my charge. By this I do not mean to state that I have lightly escaped this year, for I am only looking forward to suggestions and remarks of my hon. Friends during the voting of demands for grants relating to the administration of the various departments.

"Going through the remarks of the various members I find criticisms have been made that the allotments for village communications and rural water-supply are inadequate. I do not mean to say that we have provided or allotted sufficient funds fully to meet all the requirements in the various parts of the Presidency. It is also a matter of regret to Government that this year it has not been possible to restore the allotment for rural water-supply and village roads, to the previous figures. This year we could provide only two lakhs for rural water-supply and $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs for village roads and I do realize myself that this amount is hardly sufficient for all requirements, but we have to adjust these demands in accordance with the funds available. I am sorry I cannot give a more satisfactory reply than this to the remarks made by various members, especially Mr. Peddi Raju, Mr. Koti Reddi, Mr. Arasu, Mr. Narasa Reddi and Mr. Ari Gowder. My hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon also stressed the same point and said that the health of the rural population and urban population has to be protected and that it is necessary to provide protected water-supply to municipal towns, with special reference to Calicut. Various schemes for the extension of water-supply are under the consideration of Government and in due course when they come up before the Government, they will receive my best attention.

"Then, Sir, my Friend, Mr. Kesavaramamurti has referred to the hospital at Cocanada. I know this is a very deserving case and it may perhaps interest my hon. Friend if I say that Government have actually taken up this question and I will come up before this House for sanction for the expansion of the present hospital at Cocanada.

"I think I have finished with the various remarks of several hon. Members and now I wish to make a passing reference to the remarks of my hon. Friend, Mr. Ratnavelu Tevar, who has claimed to be the only member legitimately elected to sit in this House (Laughter). I am quoting his own words. I am sorry he is not here in his seat. He has accused Government of having deprived the citizens of Trichinopoly of their civic rights in superseding the municipality. He has already stated that I have been responsible for many misrepresentations. I am sure the unfortunate happenings at Trichinopoly during the last two years are well known. (An hon. Member: 'Notorious.') It is for the public themselves to judge the truth. For my part, I need not go into the details. I must state that these honorary chairmen ought to feel, as I am sure a great majority of them do feel, that they are trustees of the interest of the tax-payers whom they represent; and if they administer their charge observing this principle, I am sure there will be no opportunity and no necessity for the Government to interfere

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in these matters. I shall be only too happy not to interfere in these matters. But as long as I am in charge of the portfolio of Local Self-Government, if there are chairmen who are prepared to use for their own personal aggrandisement or satisfying their whims and fancies, powers placed in their hands by law, then, whether they belong to my party or to the opposition, I will never permit them to abuse their powers in a manner detrimental to the public interest. The hon. Member demanded a public enquiry over this matter. I do not think I am giving away any confidence when I say that I did originally want to hold a public enquiry over the maladministration of the Trichinopoly municipality and only at his repeated requests and entreaties, I finally decided that an enquiry by the Collector would be sufficient. It was not a judicial enquiry only in the sense that witnesses could not be summoned to appear before the enquiring officer against their will."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari :—"May I know whether it is a written request or merely an oral one?"

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—"The request was personally made to me and the Collector made an enquiry and reported that most of the charges were proved. Apart from that, if hon. Members go back to the events of those days, they would find that the Trichinopoly Municipal Council passed a censure motion on the then chairman and criticised his administration. Therefore, I think I need not say anything more to defend the action of the Government. At the same time I may state that if my hon. Friend is so anxious to have an opportunity of a public vindication of his position, he will have more than one such opportunity in the near future, if he so chooses, before a court of law.

"He has criticised the administration of public health and according to him, the only charge against the efficiency of that administration lies in the number of times the advisory committee has met under my presidentship. I don't think I need say further about it.

"I wish to say a few words in reply to my hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition in regard to the measure commonly known as the Taluk Board Abolition Bill. He said that his predictions had come true. But to quote my own words what I said was that if representation of minority communities was found to be inadequate I would make good the deficiency and that the Government could be trusted to administer the Act in a responsible manner. I did not say that these nominations would be made only if there was no minority representation. I stated that Government would act in the general interest of the province and not be prompted by political advantages. Of course the charge of my hon. Friend is that the Act has been used for political advantage. After the abolition of taluk boards, most of the minority communities lost their representation. They made repeated requests that their representation should be strengthened and I had therefore to decide . . ."

Dr. P. Subbarayan :—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I would like to state that what I said was that nominations were made to help one particular individual."

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* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I am glad my hon. Friend is more explicit. At the request of the minority communities the Government have decided that two more seats should be given to the depressed classes and one seat to a Muhammadan and one to an Indian Christian. I don't see how in my nominating these four members I have not borne in mind the statement I made before the House, and how those nominations have not been in the interest of the administration. However, my hon. Friend has also stated that he knew that pressure would be brought upon me and he has told me from his experience that I may not be able to withstand the pressure." (Laughter.)

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" On a point of personal explanation may I state that the Hon. the Chief Minister is again incorrect? What I did tell him was that, even with the best of intentions, it would not be possible on the part of the Hon. Minister to overcome the pressure that might be applied to him."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I am very glad to say that in this case no pressure was necessary for me to decide to make these nominations :"

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not convinced of it."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" If he finds that the actual persons nominated do not meet with his approval, I am only sorry for it, because in these matters, I do not attempt to satisfy all sides of the House." (Applause.)

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Sir, on a point of personal explanation, may I say that it is because one cannot satisfy all sides of the House and because pressure would be brought from one's own political party, as has been the case now, that I got rid of nominations, which have been put back once more."

* The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES :—" Mr. President, it usually falls to me to sum up the debate on the Budget and I think, as usual, we have had very interesting discussions. Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed thinks that a discussion of the nature of a general discussion of the Budget is entirely without value and therefore suggests that the discussion should be cut short and these days added to the number of days allotted for the voting of Demands. But, on the other hand, I may say that it affords hon. Members of the House an opportunity of surveying the whole field as a whole and the Government thus ascertains the feeling of the House generally on questions of general policy, which perhaps is not possible to the same extent on the individual Demands later on.

" The debate was opened, as was no doubt fitting, considering his prominent and responsible position in this House, by my friend Diwan Bahadur Ramalingam Chettiyar. His first point was that I had stated in my Budget speech that the purpose of the Government was to collect all the taxes. His words were: ' Sir, he has stated and throughout his speech he has mentioned it that the purpose of the Government as he evidently thinks is to collect all the taxes that have been imposed and to show a satisfactory balance at the end of the year.' He reiterated

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this statement several times and denounced the Government because they had arranged the finances not in a way beneficial to the province but 'with an eye only on the 100 per cent collection.'

"Now, Sir, I have only to observe, as regards this presentation of the case that it is a complete misrepresentation of the position taken up in my speech and of the policy of the Government, as set out not only in that speech but on previous occasions on which I have presented the Budget. I can only express surprise that my hon. Friend in advancing what he calls his first criticism of the Budget—and I presume he put it first because he regarded it as his most important point—should have based his remarks upon so complete a misapprehension. The result has been, as regards this part of his speech, that having ascribed to me and to the Government a position which we have never 4-45 taken up, he has proceeded to his own complete satisfaction, no doubt P.M. to demolish it. I have nowhere stressed in my speech the *collection* of the taxes nor taken credit for their complete collection. I believe the only reference in the speech to the subject of collection is paragraph 9 in which I have alluded to the existence of the seasonal difficulties as a reason why we have, in bugeting, been obliged to assume a lower percentage of land revenue collection to land revenue demand. In other words, so far from regulating our financial policy, to use my friend's own words, 'with an eye only on the 100 per cent collection' we have been ready to recognize that in bad times a decline of revenue is to be expected.

"My hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan put the point very well in the opening sentence of his remarks when he said that here we are obliged by the nature of things to adjust our expenditure to our revenue and not to adjust our revenue to our expenditure. I think that is the first point that he made in his opening speech and it is a sound one.

"What we have done is to insist that the Budget of expenditure shall be regulated with reference to the state of the revenue. That does not mean that we count invariably upon a full collection of 100 per cent revenue. That is what is meant by saying that we must cut our coat according to our cloth. And, if any one will choose to study and to interpret fairly what I have said in parargaph 27 of the speech, he will see that it is to this end that our policy has been directed. This was the primary object of the efforts at retrenchment, which we started in 1931–32, with the aid of the Retrenchment Committee, and, as my Budget speeches will show, if any one cares to refer to them, this is the policy which had the approval of this House, and which we have consistently followed. So much for my hon. Friend's first point.

"He proceeded, dealing with the general financial position, to taunt the Government with having done nothing in a time of depression to provide a living for the people, to keep up prices and so on. In other countries, he said, 'seeing that the people have been suffering *and that it would not be proper to collect the revenues* as may be necessary, they, i.e., these other Governments, have resorted to borrowing.' This, if it means anything, means that these other Governments have

been remitting taxation and borrowing to make up the resulting revenue deficit. Now it is no doubt true that many other Governments have been borrowing to make up revenue deficits, but it is news to me and it will I think be a surprise to the House to be told that they have remitted taxation because of the depression. It is only about a year ago that the British Government as the result of efforts at retrenchment and of a painfully and slowly achieved improvement in the state of trade, have been able to reduce somewhat the crushing burden of the income-tax. The relief came not before, but after and because of *the improvement in the finances of the Government due to other* causes.

"Then my hon. Friend objected to our having utilized the revenue balances to finance in varying degrees large remunerative schemes instead of 'trying to help the people in all sorts of ways by finding means to give them more employment and more amenities. Now, taking the matter on the footing on which he has himself presented it, I would ask, does the application of money from the balances *not* result in providing more employment or more amenities? Is it nothing that in the hon. Gentleman's own district the use of cheap hydro-electric power has spread and is spreading not only to existing mills and factories but to new ones? To quote only one case, a large and I believe flourishing concern has in the past year or so been started close to Podanur for the production of cement, a development which I believe, has been largely facilitated by the provision of cheap hydro-electric power. I dare say my hon. Friend is a shareholder in it and has to be congratulated. And, as the people become accustomed to its use, there is no doubt, that the effect of our hydro-electric expenditure as regards increasing both employment and amenities will become in increasing degree more manifest. Again, as regards utilizing the balances for financing in part the Cauvery-Mettur Project, Kattalai Scheme and other irrigation works, I would ask whether it can be stated that these schemes do not '*provide employment*' or increase 'amenities.' Actually of course during their construction they obviously do provide employment—at one time the Cauvery-Mettur Project employed 20,000 coolies or more—while by their effect, after completion, it is equally undoubted that in the long run they increase the prosperity of the area they serve and place within the reach of those they benefit 'amenities' to which they would not otherwise have been able to aspire. As for preventing unemployment, it is a matter of common knowledge that but for the existence of the Stanley Reservoir in the past year, a large portion of the Tanjore labouring population would have been thrown into forced idleness owing to the untimely failure of the normal freshes in the Cauvery.

"So far as the use of the balances for Capital expenditure for which otherwise we should have been forced to borrow is concerned, it would be easy to show the unsoundness of the position of my hon. Friend. What, I believe, he is really driving at is that we ought to have had recourse to borrowing and used the balance to meet concessions or other

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expenditure of a recurring character. If that is his meaning, I can only say that I consider his view to be totally unsound. Balances are not revenue though they may be the result of successive years of surplus; and they ought not—as I have frequently pointed out—to be used to meet recurring expenditure. In England, I believe, they normally go, automatically, to reduce debt. We, as I explained in my speech, have been using them for the avoidance of debt instead of for the reduction of debt. My hon. Friend, Mr. Schamrad, objects to doing either. I cannot endorse that proposition. In my speech I anticipated the argument that the 'economic land revenue remissions' might be met from this source because they were only, ostensibly, asked for for one fasli. It is an argument that was put forward in one of the newspaper discussions on the subject. I pointed out that it was not likely that the House would accept easily the withdrawal of these concessions in a year's time. I have been interested to learn from the speech of my friend, Mr. Ari Gowder, that no one on his side of the House, ever supposed it would be possible to restore the land revenue concessions in a year's time. I am much obliged to him for his assurance. It confirms my argument, and strengthens my objection to utilize non-recurring balances to finance recurring obligations! Incidentally, I must express my regret that the hon. Gentleman found my speech 'as usual as dry as dust.' (Laughter.) I do not know what else he expected a financial statement to be, especially in a time of depression! (Laughter.) If I were to have another opportunity, I should strive, next time, to provide him with more entertainment. Let us hope that my successor will be more successful in meeting the literary taste of my hon. Friend.

"To return to my friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, he said that aided schools have been starved during the past three or four years and many including several missionary schools had been closed. In the case of 'other indigenous schools' he said that 'all the aid that has been given to them has been stopped, in some cases by 40 or 50 per cent, etc.' Sir, I do not know what basis the hon. Gentleman has for these sweeping statements. The fact is that all cuts of teaching grants except for panchayat schools, which were reduced by 3½ per cent in 1931-32 have been restored since 1932-33. Recently, owing to the growth in the number of 'aided schools' the allotment of money to District Educational Councils has fallen short of what the 'assessed grant' should theoretically be under the rules, by a sum of about Rs. 6 lakhs out of a total grant of about Rs. 57 lakhs, i.e., about 10 per cent. That—if it can be called starvation—is the extent to which the full requirements of aided schools have not been met.

"Towards the close of his speech my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, propounded the proposition that in the past 13 or 14 years the 'Transferred' departments had been starved and the Reserved departments unduly pampered in the division of the available revenue.

"He quoted figures from page 12 of the Budget Memorandum of 1933-34 comparing them with the corresponding figures of 1920-21.

These showed that viewing merely the total figures, there had been in the period an increase of Rs. 174 lakhs in the Reserved against Rs. 198 lakhs in the Transferred departments. He proceeded to combat the inference, which he supposed was intended to be suggested, that the Transferred departments had been properly treated, by observing that ' there is a fallacy in the whole thing.' His argument is curious. The Reserved departments, he says, are departments relating to law and order which ' were existing before.' Therefore we are to conclude ' there is no question of expansion as we had them already.' Does my hon. Friend seriously suggest that because the Reserved departments existed before the reforms of 1920–21, no further increase of expenditure is permissible on them above what was then spent? In the period, one of exceptional affluence and economic expansion, the population had grown by about 17 per cent to mention only one factor? Obviously to suggest that no increase of expenditure, say on more or better police, more or better courts of justice and so on, can be justified is entirely unjustifiable. But, apart from this, the hon. Gentleman's argument ignores—I can only suppose deliberately—the careful analysis and explanation of the figures which is given in the same paragraph of the Budget Memorandum year after year. The total of Rs. 174 lakhs increase of expenditure on the Reserved heads during the period, includes, owing to our system of accounting, Rs. 30·39 lakhs for irrigation, which is as much, if not more, ' nation building ' than any of the Transferred heads; Rs. 49·60 lakhs for pensions and Rs. 52·26 lakhs for debt services, both of which are either wholly or in great part incurred for nation-building purposes. It also includes the whole of the educational and public health expenditure in the Agency, since all Agency expenditure is Reserved. However, excluding irrigation, pensions and debt services, we have an increase of about Rs. 43 lakhs during the period, most of it required for security and key services upon whose efficiency the existence and possibility of the nation-building services depends.

m. " I will not detain the House by a detailed examination of Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar's figures. I will give merely some more up-to-date figures for the information of the House. Comparing the expenditure incurred in 1921–22 with that proposed for 1935–36 we find that the expenditure on land revenue and general administration has decreased by 1 per cent; on administration of justice, jails and convict settlements it has decreased by 3 per cent; on police it has decreased by 1 per cent. On the other hand the expenditure on education has increased by 67 per cent; on medical and public health it has increased by 28 per cent; on agriculture and industries it has increased by 24 per cent.

" And as pointed out in paragraph 15 of my Budget speech, of the money provided for schemes of new expenditure in 1935–36, 25 per cent goes to Reserved departments and 75 per cent to Transferred.

" This hoary fallacy about the undue favouring of Reserved departments is trotted out year after year and has annually to be exposed. I hope that for the future we shall hear less of it, though perhaps in

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this I am unduly sanguine. For the last five years, there has been a large decrease in education for the simple reason that it got the lion's share in the preceding years. The fact is that from 1921–22 up to the present time Reserved departments have not been favoured at the expense of the Transferred. It is in fact the other way round; the boot is on the other leg altogether.

"Turning to the speech of my hon. Friend, Mr. Langley, I should like to say that I appreciate very highly the support which the Group he represents has given to the policy of the Budget during the last five years. I value that support the more because it comes from men who are true businessmen and have full appreciation of what it means to run a show on business lines and what it means to make both ends meet. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'There are businessmen here also.') May be. The European group can speak on that subject with special authority, and I can only add that I greatly appreciate the remarks they have expressed. There is, however, one point in Mr. Langley's speech to which I should like to draw attention. He observed that as the land revenue receipts showed almost level figures since 1920–21 it must be clear that, in view of the fall in prices since then, the agricultural commuuity were in process of being 'bled white.' I think it is a pertinent point. The argument would be valid if it could be shown that the rates of assessment operating in 1920–21 were appropriate to the then level of prices; for example, if they had been uniformly enhanced on account of and in proportion to the rise in prices from 1914 to 1921. Nothing of the sort was done and the argument falls to the ground. Everybody knows that the Government have never in these resettlements taken anything like the full amount which the recorded increase in prices justified. I believe it has very seldom gone beyond 25 per cent of that amount. And the House will be aware that since 1923 or so—the Government have actually limited this to a maximum of $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. That is a point which people who argue about this matter conveniently forget.

"Mr. Yakub Hasan argued that the success of the retrenchment drive showed that the cost of the administration could he reduced without loss of efficiency and urged that the retrenchments then ordered should be made permanent. Out of Rs. 164 lakhs of retrenchment excluding that due to revision of scales of pay, only 20 lakhs had been pnt back, of which 7 were teaching grants and 9 urgent civil works such as hospital buildings, etc., and the rest remained in operation. But I am afraid there are not many who would endorse Mr. Yakub Hasan's view that the severe curtailment of Governmental activities in every sphere of the administration was desirable as a permanent measure.

"I think I must complain that not one hon. Member gave the Government credit for the pay revision scheme which they had carried through, which was already saving a few lakhs a year and was calculated ultimately to save 58 lakhs per annum on the cost of the administration at its existing level. Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar said we should

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Indianize the services and give correspondingly lower pays. This process is already going on, and has been going on for years, for instance the gradual disappearance of I.E.S., I.V.S., I.A.S., I.F.S., but it cannot be achieved in a day.

" Mr. Rameswara Rao contended that miscellaneous revenues should be kept outside the ordinary revenue account and ear-marked for rural uplift purposes. There is no reason for so doing, as they constitute a regular and fairly steady item of receipts. But if the proposal were adopted we should have to restrict expenditure chargeable to revenue by a corresponding amount and we should be no better off in the end.

" Considered more generally, I should think that criticism of the estimates has followed the accustomed lines of advocating the surrender of revenue by the Government coupled with a demand for increased appropriation for expenditure. The suggestions for bridging the resultant gap have been few and I am afraid would go very little way to meet the difficulty. For, apparently, the surrender of revenue and the lump increased expenditure urged by Members would run into crores. Against such a deficiency I am afraid a tax on the 'unearned' increment of landed proprietors is not likely to afford an effective remedy. The whole provincial receipts under 'peishkash' only amount to Rs. 50 lakhs. No doubt, if, as was suggested by my friend, Mr. Arasu, a corresponding agricultural income-tax on landed proprietors in ryotwari areas such as Tanjore were imposed, the yield might be increased. But one cannot see a House constituted as this is voting for such an impost, although logically there may be something to be said for it. To develop the yield of taxes on tobacco, betel, etc., will take time and they are not likely in any case to provide more than a part of the money required to satisfy the demands which have been put forward.

" In this connexion, I may refer to the speeches of several hon. Members who have cried 'Look at what is being done in Western countries! Why don't you inaugurate old-age pensions, doles, unemployment insurance? Look at the New Deal in the United States of America! Why don't you borrow large sums as Mr. Roosevelt has done and do something for the good of the people?'

" Now, Sir, it seems to me that those hon. Members who take this line conveniently forget that these things cannot be done without paying for them and that it is in fact out of the question to attempt them without an increase of taxation from which I am quite certain the House would recoil if it were seriously asked to vote it. Furthermore, schemes which are possible and necessary in the case of highly industrialized Western countries are not equally possible nor equally necessary in a province almost wholly agricultural like Madras. Schemes of old-age pension, unemployment insurance, etc., I believe are usually designed so as to be in some degree self-supporting, involving a contribution from the worker as well as from the employer and the State. They pre-suppose and rest on a state of things in which industrial labour is organized, in which wages are wholly in cash and are readily

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ascertainable. Unemployment insurance is not compulsory except in respect of industrial labour in the West. Such a state of things is scarcely yet in sight in this country; industrial labour is only beginning to be organized while it will be probably generations before a similar change comes, if it ever comes, over agricultural labour. For, such a change involves the complete transformation of our agricultural system of small ryot proprietors into a system of large capitalistic owners farming land through labourers. Something of the kind is here and there beginning to appear in a few districts; but the operation of the Hindu Law of inheritance is against its rapid development; we have to set the resulting tendency to the 'morcellement' of holdings against the tendency to form large estates capable of being worked on a capitalist basis, and of affording a foundation for such a system of 'unemployment' insurance and the like as several speakers have urged upon us. That is a side of the shield which I fear they have omitted to take into consideration.

"It is perhaps unnecessary to dwell further on the aspect of the increased cost of such schemes and the enhancement of taxation they involve.

"Then in respect of land revenue remissions, a great deal has been said. Situated as we are, I remain of the opinion expressed in paragraphs 23 to 25 of my Budget speech last year to which I would invite once more attention. We are a Provincial Government with limited resources; we, like the rest of the world have been faced with great difficulties arising from the economic depression and the fall in agricultural prices. As I then said: 'It is obvious that no remission of taxation which this Government can contemplate will afford a remedy for the low prices of which we complain. A world-wide evil cannot be thus encountered. If that is so, it appears to me to follow that the measure of what a provincial Government should attempt to do is what it can afford to do, consistently with maintaining its own solvency and retaining the ability to discharge with a reasonable degree of efficiency the functions which devolve upon it. And that is the policy which this Government is seeking to pursue.' I have only to repeat that statement of our position in connexion with the present Budget.

"As I have pointed out in my speech this year, there are signs that things are improving. Since I prepared that speech the tendency towards improvement has further developed. I notice that this aspect of the matter has been carefully avoided by almost all the speakers in this debate. But it is one which cannot properly be left out of consideration. Again, as I urged last year, and must again repeat, nothing is gained in the consideration of this matter by exaggeration of language or rhetorical hyperbole. The Government, I repeat, are fully sensible of the situation, and as I stated last year, will spare no effort so far as their resources allow, to meet the necessities of the case as they appraise them.

"As for the question of relieving 'unemployment' here, again, the problem is very different in an agricultural community such as ours

and in the highly industrialized communities of the West. Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar seemed to reproach us for having done, or contemplated, nothing in this matter. He omitted to notice, apparently, the scheme outlined in paragraph 21 of the Budget speech this year which contemplates, as soon as proposals can be worked out, an extensive programme of capital works not on roads only but on the repair or improvement of tanks, irrigation channels, etc., all over the country, to be financed, if the Government of India permit us to treat it as capital expenditure, from balances in the first instance and thereafter from loans. What the ultimate total commitment may be has yet to be worked out, but I believe it will be considerable, and our debt position enables us to contemplate with equanimity a very substantial undertaking.

-15 m. "For the rest, I would urge that the policy of conserving our resources and awaiting the advent of better times is the only wise one and is that which our circumstances dictate. It may be unpopular; I do not know whether, as Mr. Langley observed, future Ministers will feel, or at any rate will express, any gratitude to us for having adopted it. I agree with him that they ought to, but I am afraid I do not greatly concern myself on that point. We shall have laboured and I am content that they should enter into our labours.

"Now, Sir, I will detain the House no longer. It has been impossible for me to deal with all the points raised by all the speakers but hon. Members may be assured that we shall consider in detail the various matters they have brought forward. In the course of the debate, I have been reminded of the maxim of the legal profession, 'if you have a bad case, abuse the other side.' That is in effect, I fear, what many of the speakers in this debate have been doing. I have been taunted with producing 'A tax-gatherer's budget.' I have, I hope, sufficiently met that allegation. One gentleman permitted himself the pleasantry of suggesting that I was leaving after 'shaking the pagoda tree' a phrase which usually means, to put it bluntly, taking bribes."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"On a point of personal explanation. I did not mean any insinuation. It was only a jocular statement."

* The Hon Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—"I am very pleased to accept my hon. Friend's assurance. I may remind him that the tongue is an unruly member. Although it may be a counsel of perfection still I would suggest that he should keep a curb on his tongue in future. I do not think I need do more than leave that sort of pleasantry to the verdict of the House. Others have referred to me as 'sun dried bureaucrat' and so on. Well, Sir, as I said last year, 'hard words break no bones.' The past five years, I can assure the House, have not been a pleasant or easy time for one who has had to manage the finances and I am not surprised that, in a time of enforced retrenchment and economy, which are always unpleasant, members should feel and should express dissatisfaction. I leave it at that. As I do not know whether I shall have another similar opportunity of addressing the House, I ask your permission, Sir, to conclude on a personal note.

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"Hon. Members even where they disagree with the policy of the Government have in the most generous way expressed their appreciation of my personal efforts and the sincerity of my intention. And the Leader of the Opposition, my old friend, Dr. P. Subbarayan, has bade me farewell in terms so warm and complimentary that I feel they far exceed my deserts. He has also included in his remarks a very kindly reference to my wife. Whether this last is strictly in accordance with Parliamentary rules, I do not know; but, your acquiescence, Sir, no doubt amply covers Dr. Subbarayan's procedure. However that may be, I do assure the House that the sentiments to which Dr. Subbarayan has given expression, have given me the keenest pleasure and will always be a source to me of pride, endorsed as they have been by the applause of the House; and my wife, when she learns of it, will most highly value the exceptional—the most exceptional—compliment which the House has paid to her." (Cheers.)

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 699 asked by Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th February 1935, page 304 supra.]

(1)

G.O. Ms. No. 1598, Home (Education), dated 27th December 1919.

Read—the following papers:—

Memorandum to the Director of Public Instruction, No. 206-A-1, dated 13th February 1919.

From the Director of Public Instruction, No. 3135/19, dated 6th November 1919.

Endorsement of the Accountant-General, No. T.M. 25–17699, dated 17th November 1919.

Order—Ms. No. 1598, *Home (Education), dated 27th December* 1919.

Selection for the posts of manual training instructors should be made from among secondary grade trained teachers who have obtained technical certificates in drawing and have successfully undergone the training course for manual training instructors at the Teachers' College, Saidapet. Persons who have obtained first-class certificates in the examination held at the end of the manual training course will be paid a salary of Rs. 50—2—70 per mensem and those who have obtained only second-class certificates a salary of Rs. 40—2—50 per mensem.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
,, Accountant-General (through the Finance Department).

(2)

G.O. Ms. No. 1177, Law (Education), dated 6th October 1922.

The Government sanction revised scales of pay as shown in the annexed statement for the miscellaneous appointments in the Educational Department, which were not dealt with by the Reforms Commissioner.

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2. Persons who may be adversely affected by the revised scales of pay now sanctioned will be allowed the option of retaining their old rates of pay and the temporary additions to pay sanctioned for high prices.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Education and Public Works)

R. Ramachandra Rao,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
,, Accountant-General, through the Finance Department.
,, Finance Department.

Annexure.

Designation.	Number.	Present pay.	Average cost. RS. A. P.	Number.	Proposed pay.
Manual Training Instructor.	8	Rs. 50—2—70 plus Travelling allowance.	641 7 9	9	35—35—1½—50—1—60 each with a special pay of Rs. 12 or 8 according as the instructor holds first-class or second-class certificate.
	1	Rs. 40—2—50 plus Travelling allowance.	60 2 3		

(3)

G.O. Ms. No. 1024, Law (Education), dated 5th May 1928.

Read—the following paper:—

Letter from the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, R.O.C. No. 907-F/27, dated the 6th April 1928.

[Manual Training Instructors—General and Professional qualifications—Course and period of study—Proposals submitting.]

The Manual Training course should be open only to the holders of completed S.S.L.Cs. who have shown special aptitude for Manual Training or allied subjects. The course of training for this class of teachers may be for two years. In the first year, the teacher would be given lessons and training in the Secondary Training Department in the principles of teaching in general and in the principles of Manual and Vocational Training and observation work in the Manual Training class of the Model School. In the next year he would be trained in practical manual work and in the teaching of manual work It would thus be possible to pass out a batch of students each year from the Manual Traiuing class as is now the case. While the above suggestion would bring the Manual Training Instructors into line with the ordinary secondary-grade teachers, it may also offer a possible solution for the question as to whether the Manual Training Instructors

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may not be granted the same pay as that of the secondary-grade teachers. The scheme of training outlined above may be arranged at Saidapet with the existing staff.

Order—Ms. No. 1024, *Law (Education), dated* 5*th May* 1928.

The Government approve of the changes proposed by the Director of Public Instruction in the system of training Manual Training Instructors. The new scheme will take effect from July 1929.

2. Instructors trained under the new scheme who are employed in Government institutions will be eligible for a scale of pay of Rs. 35—35—1½—50—1—60 and no special pay will be granted to them.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Education and Local Self-Government)

P. SITARAMAYYA,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
,, Accountant-General, through the Finance Department.
,, Finance Department.

(4)

G.O. Ms. No. 86, Law (Education), dated 20th January 1932.

In paragraph 2 of G.O. No. 1024, Law (Education), dated 5th Ma 1928, the Government directed that Manual Training Instructors traine under the revised scheme who are employed in Government instit tions should not be granted special pay. They have now decided th no special pay should be given to new recruits to the posts of Manu Training Instructors, whether they were trained under the old or t revised scheme.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Education and Excise)

A. F. W. DIXON,
Deputy Secretary to Governmen

To the Director of Public Instruction.
,, Accountant-General, through the Finance Department.
,, Finance Department.
,, Public Department.
,, Finance (Retrenchment) Department.

(5)

G.O. Ms. No. 418, Law (Education), dated 18th March 1932.

Read—the following paper:—

G.O. No. 86, Education, dated 20th January 1932.

Order—Ms. No. 418, *Law (Education), dated* 18*th March* 1932.

In G.O. No. 86, Education, dated 20th January 1932, the Gover ment ordered that no special pay should be given to new recruits the posts of manual training instructors whether they were train

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under the old or the revised scheme. They are now pleased to direct that the special pay drawn by the existing incumbents be continued to them as personal pay. Under Fundamental Rule No. 37 the personal pay should be paid to them in full without being absorbed in increments, so long as they continue to hold the posts of manual training instructors.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Education and Excise)

A. F. W. DIXON,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
,, Accountant-General.
,, Finance Department.

(6)

G.O. No. 311, Public (Services), dated 13th April 1933.

The latest scales of pay of manual training instructors in secondary schools sanctioned in the Government Order have already been placed at the disposal of the Press.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 702 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th February 1935, page 306 supra.]

Number of candidates selected for appointment as Upper Subordinates of Madras Agricultural Subordinate Service (communitywar).

Year.	District.	Non-Brahman	Brahman.	Muhammadan.	Indian Christian.
1931	Ganjam	1	..	..	..
	Vizagapatam	1	1	..	..
	East Godavari	1	1	..	1
	Madras	..	..	2	1
	South Arcot	..	..	..	1
	Chittoor	..	1	..	..
	Tanjore	1	1	..	..
	Trichinopoly	1	..	..	..
	Ramnad	..	1	..	..
	Coimbatore	4	..	..	..
	Malabar	1	1	..	1
	Cochin	..	..	..	1
	Total ..	10	6	2	5
1932	Trichinopoly	..	..	1	..
	Coimbatore	..	..	1	..
	Malabar	..	..	1	..
	Total ..	..	..	3	..
1933	....		Nil.		

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Number of candidates selected for appointment as Upper Subordinates of Madras Agricultural Subordinate Service (communitywar)—cont.

Year.		District Non-Brahman.	Brahman.	Muhammadan.	Indian Christian.
1934	Ganjam	..	1	..	..
	East Godavari	3	1	..	..
	Guntur	1	..	..	..
	Nellore	1	..	..	..
	Bellary	..	1	..	..
	Kurnool	1	..	..	1
	Cuddapah	1	..	..	..
	Chingleput	..	1	..	..
	North Arcot	..	..	..	1
	South Arcot	..	..	..	1
	Chittoor	4	..	..	..
	Ramnad	1	..	..	1
	Salem	1	..	..	..
	Coimbatore	2	..	1	..
	South Kanara	2	..	..	..
	Total ..	17	4	1	4
1935	East Godavari	1	..	..	..
	Guntur	1	..	..	..
	Nellore	..	1	..	..
	Cuddapah	1	..	..	..
	Chittoor	..	1	..	..
	Chingleput	1	..	..	..
	Ramnad	..	..	..	1
	Tinnevelly	..	..	..	1
	Salem	1	1	..	..
	Malabar	1	..	..	..
	South Kanara	1	..	..	..
	Total ..	7	3	..	2

Number of applications received for appointment as Upper Subordinates including Research Assistants—Madras Agricultural Subordinate Service.

Serial number and date of selection.	Hindu. Non-Brahman.	Hindu. Brahman.	Indian Christian.	Muhammadan.	Total.
1 November 1931—Number applied	51	99	12	3	165
2 April 1932—Number applied	11	21	5	1	38
3 September 1932 *—Number applied	2	..	..	3	5
4 February 1934—Number applied	39	40	5	1	85
5 November 1934 †—Number applied	1	3	..	..	4
6 December 1934—Number applied	35	41	3	..	79

* Application invited from Muhammadans and candidates belonging to scheduled classes.

† Applications invited from candidates belonging to the Agency tracts and Ganjam, Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 705 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th February 1935, page 310 supra.]

List of candidates selected by the Madras Services Commission in 1932 *for admission to the Madras District Board Engineering Service.*

Recruited from Local Fund Assistant Engineers exclusively—

1. M.R.Ry. K. Tirumalaiswami Ayyar, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Nellore.
2. ,, K. Sundararamamurti Pantulu, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Guntur.
3. ,, C. S. Venkatasubramania Ayyar, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Tinnevelly.
4. ,, P. K. Mukherji, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Ganjam.
5. ,, N. Balakrishna Ayyar, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Vizagapatam.
6. ,, R. Krishnamurti Ayyar, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Anantapur.

Recruited otherwise—

Non-Brahman Hindus.

1. M.R.Ry. T. Loganatha Mudaliyar, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Ramnad.
2. ,, N. P. Sundaram Pillai, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Tinnevelly.
3. ,, T. Sekharan, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Coimbatore.
4. ,, S. Chennappa Nayak.
5. ,, P. Balakrishnayya Nayudu.

Indian Christian.

M.R.Ry. P. G. Mathew, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Guntur.

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Muhammadans.

Muhammad N. Durrani.

Serial number and name of district board engineer. (1)	Qualifications. (2)	Date of first appointment. (3)	Previous service. (4) Y. M. D.	Nature of previous employment. (5)
1 M.R.Ry. K. Tirumalaiswami Ayyar Avargal.	B.A., B.E. (Civil), B.E. (M.E.).	18th February 1932 (afternoon.)	21 4 0	Local Fund Assistant Engineer.
2 M.R.Ry. K. Sundararamamurti Pantulu Garu.	B.A., C.E. ..	14th April 1932 (forenoon.)	18 9 15	Do.
3 M.R.Ry. C. S. Venkatasubramania Ayyar Avargal.	B.A., B.E. ..	29th April 1932 (afternoon.)	19 7 5	Do.
4 M.R.Ry. P. K. Mukherji Avargal.	B.E. (Poona) ..	2nd May 1932 (forenoon.)	18 8 6	Do.
5 M.R.Ry. N. P. Sundaram Pillai Avargal.	B.A., C.E. ..	16th May 1932 (forenoon.)	16 10 28	Do.
6 M.R.Ry. T. Loganatha Mudaliyar Avargal.	B.E. (Civil) ..	25th May 1932 (forenoon.)	12 3 20	Do.
7 M.R.Ry. S. Chennappa Nayak Avargal.	A.M.I.C.E. ..	27th June 1932 (forenoon.)	1 10 27	Local Fund Assistant Engineer and Public Works Department Service.
8 M.R.Ry. T. Sekharan Avargal.	C.E.	20th July 1932 (forenoon.)	12 8 14	Local Fund Assistant Engineer.
9 Mr. N. Durrani	B.E.	23rd July 1932 (forenoon.)	1 10 6	Do.
10 M.R.Ry. N. Balakrishna Ayyar Avargal.	B.A., B.E. (C.E.).	20th April 1933 (forenoon.)	19 7 11	Do.
11 M.R.Ry. P. G. Mathew Avargal.	B.A., C.E. ..	17th July 1933 (forenoon.)	16 10 15	Do.
12 M.R.Ry. R. Krishnamurti Ayyar Avargal.	C.E.	6th November 1933 (afternoon.)	19 8 21	Do.
13 M.R.Ry. P. Balakrishnayya Nayudu Avargal.	B.E. (M.E.) ..	20th April 1934 (forenoon.)	1 2 2	Supervisor, Public Works Department, and Local Fund Assistant Engineer.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 706 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th February 1935, page 311 supra.]

G.O. No. 4619, L. & M., dated 20th October 1934.

In exercise of the power conferred by section 67 (3) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, as amended by Madras Act II of 1934, the Government now fix the following scales of pay to the teachers and other staff in Secondary schools under the control of district boards including the existing incumbents :—

Posts.	Scale of pay. RS.
Headmasters—	
High schools ..	110—10/2—170
Middle schools ..	100— 5/2—120
L.T. Assistants ..	65— 5/2—100
Secondary grade trained teachers ..	30— 2/2— 50
Pandits ..	30— 2/2— 40
Physical training instructors ..	25— 2/2— 45
Drawing masters ..	25— 2/2— 45
Commercial instructors ..	35— 2/2— 45
Manual training instructors, drawing and needle-work mistresses, music mistresses, physical training instructresses ..	30— 2/2— 50
Untrained teachers—	
(i) Graduates ..	25
(ii) Secondary grade ..	20
(iii) Others (pandits, physical training instructors, drawing masters, etc.) ..	20

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• The above scales will apply also to women teachers in secondary schools. The scale approved above for headmasters of high schools will apply only to the schools which have the VI form as the highest form. In the case of incomplete high schools the scale applicable to middle school headmasters will apply. No personal allowance will be granted to the existing incumbents who may now be in receipt of pay in excess of the scales sanctioned above. These orders will come into force on the 1st November 1934.

2. Municipal councils are also advised to adopt the scales of pay approved above in respect of the secondary schools under their control from 1st November 1934.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

T. B. RUSSELL,
Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
,, all Executive Authorities of Municipal Councils.
,, all Collectors.
,, the Director of Public Instruction.
,, *the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.*
,, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
,, the Commissioner, through Mayor, Corporation of Madras.
,, the Law (Education) Department.
,, the Revenue Department.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 722 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th February 1935, page 322 supra.]

Copy of letter from the Collector of North Arcot, Vellore, to the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement R.O.C. No. E-3-1462/35, dated 9th February 1935.

[*Reference.*—Government Memorandum No. 626-E-35-1, dated 4th February 1935.]

Character of the season.—The south-west monsoon commences in June and lasts up to the end of September. The average rainfall for these four months in the current and the previous fasli and the average for the 45 years ending 1914 are given below :—

Month.	Fasli 1344.	Fasli 1343.	Average.
June	3·86	0·55	2·37
July	3·33	2·30	3·29
August	3·90	6·79	5·38
September	4·46	3·56	6·80
Total ..	15·55	13·20	17·84

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The rainfall in the months of June and July was beneficial to the then standing crops, e.g., sugarcane, gingelly, cholam, etc. In July, it was helpful for the (i) preparation of dry lands for sowing, (ii) sowing of dry crops in lands already prepared and (iii) raising nurseries for early samba paddy. But in August 1934, it was far below the average and was received mostly in the last week of the month with the result that the condition of the crops was far from satisfactory and rainfed crops suffered most. The rainfall in September was also below the average and was practically of no benefit to the crops. The monsoon was not thus favourable for agricultural operations.

The north-east monsoon commences in October and lasts up to the end of December. The rainfall statistics for these months are given below :—

Month.	Fasli 1344.	Fasli 1343.	Average.
October	12·84	5·68	6·77
November	4·25	1·69	5·73
December	0·18	6·09	2·53
Total ..	17·27	13·46	15·03

The monsoon commenced well with good showers during the second fortnight of October and the early part of November. There were slight freshes in the Cheyyar but not in the Palar. The tanks in Wandiwash, Polur, Arni, Cheyyar and Tiruvannamalai received supply sufficient for the then requirements but the supply received in parts of the remaining taluks was not adequate. The absence of rainfall in December 1934 affected the condition of the crops. In January 1935, the rainfall was only 1·25 inches as against 2·46 in January.

Effect of the season.—The season was admittedly not favourable to dry crops and the outturn of the early dry crops harvested was only 4 to 7 annas nearer 4 than 7 in all the talnks except Cheyyar and Wandiwash. The north-east monsoon was also not encouraging as the season for raising some of the valuable and useful dry crops was already over and secondly, the ryots would normally have raised two successful dry crops had both the monsoons been favourable : the failure of the one has resulted in the ryots not realizing the usual quantity of produce which they would have had in normal years.

As regards wet crops, there were no sufficient rains in December 1934 and January 1935 in consequence of which the irrigation sources did not receive additional supplies. What was rather a hopeful outlook for wet crops in October 1934 took a sudden turn for the worse owing to the paucity of showers in November and December. In Vellore, Cheyyar, Wandiwash, Gudiyattam and Tiruppattur taluks, some of the villages have been affected and I propose to grant season remissions in addition to the suspension of revenue granted by the Government in their Order No. 68, Press, dated 10th January 1935. In Tiruvannamalai division it is reported that the tanks which received only partial supply are drying up but that as in the majority of the cases the ryots

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have the support of wells they can manage and prevent the existing wet crops from withering and that cases for grant of remission will be few this year. In Ranipet division the season is reported to be fair except that in some villages wet crops are likely to fail for want of sufficient supply in the irrigation sources. This can be met by the grant of the usual seasonal remissions.

I have inspected the crops in a number of villages in Vellore and Wandiwash taluks. I found that they have failed in numerous fields which depended wholly on the tank water.

Crops.—The area cultivated in the district up to the end of January 1935 and up to the end of the corresponding period of last year is given below :—

	First crop in acres.		Dry crops in acres.	
	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
1934	723,862	247,408	63,313	61,071
1935	705,410	262,801	75,550	70,247

The decrease under first crop dry is due to want of early rains in the year.

* * * *

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Tuesday, the 26th February 1935.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Stokes, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Hopetoun.
Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. C. A.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Birley, Mr. F.
Davis, Mr. J. A.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurthi Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Krishnaswami Ayyar, *Kt.*, Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Metherell, Mr. J. K.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, Mr. B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Parlakimedi, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott-Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Viswanatha Rao, Diwan Bahadur V. N.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Arms and Ammunition

Renewal of licences for firearms in Tinnevelly during 1935.

* 728 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many licences for the possession of firearms were renewed for the year 1935 in the district of Tinnevelly;

(*b*) how many of the licences that were held by the Adi-Dravidas in the year 1934 were not renewed for the year 1935;

(*c*) what were the reasons for the refusal of renewal;

(*d*) how many of the Christians were denied the privilege of renewal of licences for the year 1935; and

(*e*) what the qualifications are for the possession of a gun licence?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The information is not available.

(*e*) No qualifications have been prescribed.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know what are the reasons for adopting a stringent policy in the matter of issuing licences for the possession of firearms? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" I do not think there is a stringent policy just now."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know what will be the approximate number of applications for licences that have been rejected in the course of this year? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" I am afraid that is a question which I cannot answer. The information is not available to Government yet."

Police

Mode of publication of the notice of recruitment to the Police by the District Superintendents.

* 729 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received information on the mode of publication of the notice of recruitment to the Police by the District

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Superintendents of Police referred to in answer to question No. 324, asked on 25th October 1934; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the information on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The practice is as follows:—

In most districts notice of recruitment to the lower ranks of the Police force is published by the District Superintendents of Police through their Station-house officers and other subordinate officers or through the District Gazette. In the Nilgiris, leading men of the depressed classes and in South Kanara, the District Labour Officer are also informed. Instructions have recently been issued to all District Superintendents of Police to make efforts to find out suitable depressed class candidates.

Vacancies as they occur are filled from a list of approved candidates prepared in advance by the District Superintendents of Police. A notice is not therefore published every time a vacancy occurs.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why in the Nilgiris the leading men of the depressed classes and in South Kanara the District Labour Officer are also informed and why a uniform procedure could not be adopted for all districts?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The procedure adopted by each District Superintendent is different. The hon. Member's suggestion will be communicated to the other officers."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know why circulars inviting applications should not be affixed on the notice boards of the various Government offices?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"They are published in the offices of Station-house Officers who are under the District Superintendent of Police, who is the Recruiting Officer."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government consider the question of intimating to the leading members of the depressed classes and informing the local bodies in the district about such vacancies?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I shall consider the suggestion."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"What is the harm in publishing such things by affixture on the notice boards of the revenue and other offices?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"If it is the revenue offices we have to fix a definite number. I shall certainly consider the suggestion."

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Report called for from the District Superintendent of Police, Tinnevelly, regarding the recruitment of members of the depressed classes to the constabulary.

* 730 *Q.*—Mr. M. Devadasan: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a report on the subject of applications received by the District Superintendent of Police, Tinnevelly, from the members of the depressed classes, for the posts of constables referred to in answer to question No. 325, asked on 25th October 1934; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the report on the table of this House?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The particulars asked for by the hon. Member in question No. 325 are given below:—

The procedure adopted for the enlistment of police constables is that qualified applicants as they come in from day to day are seen and selected by the District Superintendent of Police of each district and sent to the District Medical Officer for medical examination. If they are passed medically fit, they are placed in their order on a waiting list of approved candidates from which vacancies are filled as they occur.

The District Superintendent of Police, Tinnevelly, has reported that he received eighty-six applications by post between January 1933 and August 1934; that a much larger number applied personally and were dealt with in person at once; that there is no record of this number; that he interviewed twenty-four of the applicants before they were rejected; that the rest were obviously unsuitable and were not therefore called in.

Irrigation

Alleged irregularity in regard to the sale of the towers at Mettur.

* 731 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Executive Engineer, Mettur Project, advertised in the papers about the sale of towers at Mettur and called for tenders;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that one A. Abdul Rahim of Palakkarai, Trichinopoly, wrote two letters, dated 16th October 1934 and 30th October 1934;

(*c*) whether a reply was sent to him on 7th November 1934 that his name had been registered in the office and notices will be sent to him when sales were conducted;

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(*d*) whether it is a fact that on 30th October 1934 he remitted a money order for a photo copy of the tower and requested the Engineer's office to send him a tender form along with the photo;

(*e*) if so, why the Engineer's office did not send him a tender form along with the photo copy;

(*f*) whether in his letter, dated 6th December 1934, the Executive Engineer, Mettur, stated that a copy of the tender notice and agreement form were sent to him on 27th October 1934;

(*g*) if so, who was responsible for not enclosing the tender form to the letter;

(*h*) whether it is a fact that in the meantime the sale of the tower was effected; and

(*i*) for how much the tower was sold?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) Yes.

(*e*) & (*g*) There was no prescribed form of tender.

(*f*) Yes.

(*h*) An offer was finally accepted on 22nd December 1934.

(*i*) Rs. 33,671.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" With reference to (*e*), may I know what the Government means by saying that there was no prescribed form of tender? Have they no tender forms? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" Only tender notices which are different from tender forms."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know whether the Government are satisfied that sufficient publicity was given to this sale and also satisfied that they have got the maximum amount they could get for this tender? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" Yes, Sir. I may tell the hon. Member that from Trichinopoly two other offers were made, one amounting to Rs. 20,100 and the other for about Rs. 27,500. The highest offer was for Rs. 33,000 and that we accepted."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know the name of the successful tenderer and the place he hails from? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" I do not know of his name, but the place he comes from, I understand, is Calcutta."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know of the newspapers in which the tenders were published? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" May I know what the cost of such publication came to? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" Notice."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask whether this man Mr. Abdul Rahim, made any definite offer at which he was prepared to purchase this tower? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—" I understand, not, Sir."

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Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" May I know whether the photograph he requested to be sent was sent to him? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" I have no information."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know whether he has not subsequently made an offer higher than this? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" I have no information, Sir."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" May I know whether the Government considered the desirability or otherwise of using these towers for their future projects? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" That matter was considered, but it was not found advisable to use them in any other way."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that he subsequently offered a higher price when an agreement had not been reached and whether it would not have been in the interests of the finances of the Government if they had accepted the higher tender? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" I am not aware of that."

Reconsideration of irrigation projects in the Anantapur district abandoned as unproductive.

* 732 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are reconsidering the cases of irrigation projects in Anantapur district abandoned before, purely on the ground that the return to the Government would be less than 3 per cent; and

(*b*) what the abandoned projects are and which of them have been or will be taken up for reconsideration and further investigation?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) A statement [a] showing the projects considered since 1900 is appended. With the exception of the Penner Kumudavathi project, none of the others is proposed to be taken up for reconsideration at present.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao :—" With regard to answer to (*b*), may I know whether in view of the policy propounded by the Hon. the Finance Member in the course of his speech on the Budget, these cases will be reconsidered? "

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter :—" I have no doubt, Sir, that these projects will be examined with reference to the scheme which the Hon. the Finance Member has announced to this House."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" May I know if the Hon. the Revenue Member is aware of the answer given by his predecessor at the time of an adjournment motion at the last session regarding relief

a Printed as Appendix I on page 445 infra.

measures in the Ceded districts? The Hon. Member's predecessor promised to reconsider the inclusion of minor irrigation schemes even if they are unproductive under famine relief because they would certainly come under protective works."

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I am not aware of that statement, Sir. I will find out what my predecessor said on the matter."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I know if under the rules it is possible for the Government to spend money on protective works after the amount has reached 40 lakhs in the famine relief fund?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I think that is so."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I know if the Government does not consider that these schemes which are abandoned as unproductive, would still come under protective works?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"I have already stated that these schemes will be considered in connexion with the general scheme which it is proposed if possible to carry out."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I know the reason why no amount has been provided for in the Budget for such works?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"It appears under No. 9 at page 7."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"But for the schemes in regard to which suggestions have been made, no provision has been made?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. SOUTER:—"If the hon. Member will detail the schemes to me, I can possibly give him an answer."

The Papanasam Irrigation Project.

* 733 *Q.*—Mr. I. C. ISWARAN PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the report of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the Papanasam Irrigation Project has been received;

(*b*) whether any, and, if so, what orders have been passed on the same; and

(*c*) whether the Government have considered the question of expediting the project, in view of the favourable condition of the money-market and the prevalence of severe drought in the Tinnevelly district?

A.—(*a*) The Chief Engineer for Irrigation has submitted a preliminary report on the project and his further report is awaited.

(*b*) & (*c*) The question of taking up the project will be considered after the further report of the Chief Engineer and the recommendations of the Board of Revenue and the Irrigation Development Board thereon are received.

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The Maranthai anicut and channel, Tinnevelly district.

* 734 *Q.*—Mr. Daniel Thomas: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 733, dated 8th March 1934, in regard to Maranthai anicut and channel in the Tinnevelly district—

(*a*) what orders, if any, have been passed on the report of the Board of Revenue;

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to place the report on the table of the House;

(*c*) whether the revised estimates for the repairs and improvements of the channel and anicut have been sanctioned by the Government; and

(*d*) whether and when the estimates are likely to be taken up for execution?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) As the hon. Member is aware, necessary funds for repairs and improvements to the channel have been voted by the Legislative Council at the meeting held on 21st January 1935.

The details of the scheme are given in the note explaining the demands for supplementary grants circulated to hon. Members of the Legislative Council.

The Government have sanctioned the scheme for execution during the current year.

Pounds and Prevention of Cattle Trespass

Enhancement of cattle-pound rates in certain districts.

* 735 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have increased the cattle-pound rates in certain districts, and, if so, why?

A.—In January 1932 the Madras Retrenchment Committee recommended that the scale of fines levied under the Cattle Trespass Act should be increased. The Government passed orders, directing that in areas in which the scale of fines prescribed in section 12 of the Cattle Trespass Act, as it stood prior to the Amending Act XVII of 1921, was still in force, it should be increased by 50 per cent and that in areas where the scale had already been enhanced by 50 per cent or more, the rates so enhanced should continue.

The reasons for the enhancement were—

(*a*) the previous scale was fixed at a low rate so long ago as 1871, and

(*b*) pound fees are not a tax or an unavoidable burden and it is reasonable to make them high enough to induce the average ryot to take ordinary care to prevent his cattle from damaging other ryots' fields.

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Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know whether the Government will be pleased to reconsider these rates in view of the present depression?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"No, Sir. There is sufficient justification for the present rate."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"May I know whether this revenue from pounds can be earmarked for rural development?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"No, Sir."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"May I know whether the Government do not consider that the rates which have been fixed are prohibitively high?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"The reason is given in the answer. The rates are preventive and no person need have to pay if he keeps his cattle from trespassing on other peoples' property."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"May I know whether the Government are prepared to entrust these pounds to the village panchayats wherever they want it?"

The Hon. Mr. C. A. Souter:—"Notice, Sir."

Co-operation

Period of enquiry by the Deputy Registrar for registration of a society.

* 736 *Q.*—Mr. V. G. Vasudeva Pillai: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the average period taken by the Deputy Registrar for enquiry for registration of a society?

A.—It is not possible to give any definite information on the point. The time taken must obviously depend on the nature of each case.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the Hon. the Minister is aware that this department takes considerable time in giving recognition to societies and passing orders?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"I cannot say."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know whether the Hon. the Minister is in a position to say as to the normal time that is taken for such enquiries?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"I cannot add anything more to what has been already said."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that the department makes inordinate delay and it is very desirable that the Hon. Minister should lay down certain rules or conventions that enquiries should be finished within a certain time?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"No rules can be laid down. It all depends upon the nature and amount of work."

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Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether any rules are observed in the department as to the disposal of these files, whether there is any time-limit within which disposals ought to be made with regard to certain files?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I could not follow the hon. Member."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know whether the department will expedite enquiries with regard to new societies?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" They will take time to make enquiries and see whether the society if registered can function properly."

Refusal of permission to co-operative societies in famine areas to open grain stores.

* 737 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Registrar of Co-operative Societies turned down a proposal for starting grain stores in famine areas by co-operative societies therein, to supply grain to the poor people at cost price; and

(*b*) if so, why?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The proposal referred to was not approved by the Registrar because, after consulting the Collector, he considered it unnecessary in view of the relief afforded in the same direction by Government and by the Relief Committee and also for the reason that additional agencies would only tend to complicate the situation.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" May I know if a society is organized by private agencies who propose to sell grain at less than the cost price why Government does not lend a helping hand?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I have no information on the subject. I believe the District Collector is the person who deals with that."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Is it the opinion of the Hon. Minister that there should be no additional relief accorded to these people suffering in the famine areas?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" The question is whether co-operative societies should function in this matter. It is not whether the relief is sufficient or not."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether if the co-operative societies would add to the relief that is now afforded by the Government, Government would be against it?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" If the co-operative societies could add to the relief, certainly the Registrar will see that it is done."

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Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Is it the opinion of the Hon. Minister that co-operative societies are not fit to take up these things? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" That is not my opinion, Sir."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—" May I put it to the Hon. Minister that the help of co-operative societies and non-official agencies is required only when the department cannot lend their helping hand? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Government has to be guided by the advice of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies."

Public Works

Electrification of the Government buildings at Salem.

* 738 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what are the Government buildings that are yet to be provided with electric lighting in Salem headquarters area; and

(*b*) what the delay is due to and when they are likely to be electrified?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Proposals for the electrification of almost all the important Government residential and non-residential buildings have been approved by Government. The works have either been completed or are in the course of execution. The Government have considered it unnecessary to electrify the buildings occupied by the Education and Registration departments, the Veterinary Hospital and the subordinate staff quarters attached to the Central Jail.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know what are the reasons that led the Government to consider that the electrification of the buildings occupied by the Education and Registration departments and the Veterinary hospital and the subordinate staff quarters attached to the Central Jail, is unnecessary? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Probably the cost of wiring, etc."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know what these officers are to do if they have to work late in the nights? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I suppose whatever was the practice before the same would continue."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Does not that principle apply to other offices? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" That might very well apply."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Why should they be electrified? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" The Government have not enough funds to spare to electrify these buildings."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know whether Government do not consider that the electrification of their own buildings is an asset to their property? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Not always."

Registration

Proposals, if any, for opening additional sub-registry offices during 1935–36.

* 739 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals for opening new sub-registry offices in the coming year 1935–36; and

(*b*) if so, which the places proposed are and how many offices are to be opened?

A.—(*a*) None.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know whether there is any proposal to close down any of the sub-registry offices during the coming year? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" As far as I am aware, there is no such proposal."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation

Delay in the execution of repairs to the Panchantangi tank.

740 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN : Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the cause of the delay in the matter of repair to the Panchantangi tank; and

(*b*) whether the estimates have been resubmitted to the Superintending Engineer by the Executive Engineer and sanctioned by the former?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) The estimates were re-submitted to the Superintending Engineer who returned them to the Executive Engineer on 22nd January 1935 to furnish correct figures of the ayacut. On receipt of the information the Superintending Engineer will take necessary action to sanction the estimates.

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Repairs to the Maranthai channel, Tinnevelly district.

741 *Q.*—Mr. I. C. Iswaran Pillai: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the Maranthai channel and anicut under the Chittar river in the Tinnevelly district—

(*a*) what orders, if any, have been passed on the question of executing the necessary repairs and improvements for the same; and

(*b*) when the Government propose to order the execution of the works?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 734.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

I.A.—CIRCULATION OF PRINTED LISTS OF QUESTIONS.

* Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" Sir, you are aware that there was a practice of circulating on the previous day a printed list of questions to be answered on a particular day. This practice enabled Members to know which questions were coming up on the following day; but it was given up as a measure of retrenchment. Now it is very difficult for hon. Members to know which questions are coming up on a particular day. 11-1[illegible] a.m.

" You are also aware, Sir, that your predecessor in office once mentioned to the House that it is not fair to the House that hon. Members should give notice of interpellations and not be in their place when they are answered. May I request you, Sir, to see that, though not a complete list of questions, at least the heading of the questions to be answered on a particular day—that would not cost much—may be put down on a sheet of paper and circulated to hon. Members one day earlier? "

* The Hon. the President:—" I am quite aware of the fact that previously questions were being circulated in the manner mentioned by the hon. Member and that, as a measure of retrenchment, after consulting, I remember, the leaders of parties, that practice was given up. If it is found to be necessary now, the matter will he re-examined."

II.—PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE.

* The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes:—" Sir, I move—

' *that with a view to the constitution of a Committee on Public Accounts for the financial year* 1935–36, *this Council do proceed, on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the President, to elect seven members to be members of the said Committee* '."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

III.—FINANCE COMMITTEE.

* The Hon. Sir HOPETOUN STOKES :—" Sir, I move—

' *that, in accordance with Resolution No. 2 passed at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 8th August 1929, regarding the constitution of the Finance Committee, this Council do proceed, on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the President, to elect eight members to be members of the Finance Committee for the financial year 1935–36* '."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" In accordance with the regulations framed under Standing Order No. 78 for the election of Members of the Public Accounts Committee by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 1 p.m. on 9th March 1935 as the time within which notice of nominations should be given to the Secretary. If the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, namely 7, there will be an election between 3 and 4 p.m., on the 11th March 1935.

" In accordance with the regulations framed under Standing Order No. 78 for the election of Members of the Finance Committee by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 1 p.m. on 9th March 1935 as the time within which notice of nominations should be given to the Secretary. If the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, namely 8, there will be an election between 3 and 4 p.m. on the 11th March 1935."

IV.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920 (BILL No. 1 OF 1935).

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Sir, I beg to present the [a] report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, for certain purposes (Bill No. 1 of 1935) and move that the [a] Bill as amended by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

" The report of the Select Committee is in the hands of hon. Members. I will just mention a few amendments carried out."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I suggest to the Hon. Minister to be a little more audible? "

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" In clause 2, section 11 of the Madras Local Boards Act, the amendment carried by the Select Committee is to the following effect: That the extension or reduction of the term of office of members of a board should be stated in the notification and that there should be sufficient reasons for so doing.

" The second amendment of importance is in connexion with the provision for the revision of the electoral rolls. At present the revision of the electoral rolls has to be completed before the end of June. The proposal in the Bill was that there should be time till the end of October

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 446–453 infra.

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The Select Committee has reduced this period by one month, namely, the end of September. The Select Committee has also decided to include the names of the districts in the three circles in the Bill itself as an annexure or schedule instead of mentioning them in the statement of objects and reasons. They now therefore form part of the Bill.

"The other minor amendments are mentioned in the report itself. It is not necessary for me to repeat them here."

The motion was put and carried, and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clause 1.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

Clause 2.

Sub-clause (i).

* Mr. T. B. Russell:—"Mr. President, I beg to move a small verbal amendment which has been found necessary, namely—

'*In line* 1, for *the words* "*the following sub-section*," substitute *the words* "*the following sub-sections*".'

"The essential reasons for this amendment will be understood when we come to the later amendments which I have given notice of to the other clauses of the Bill."

Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"Sir, I move that the proviso to sub-clause (i) of this clause be omitted.

"In actual practice we have found that the vesting of discretionary powers of this kind with the Government has not led to satisfactory results. In the Local Boards Act passed in 1934 we gave power to the Government to make nominations to the bifurcated district boards. That power, as far as we know, has not been exercised in a satisfactory way. When the Tanjore District Board was bifurcated, the Government nominated persons belonging to the communities which were already well represented on the Board. There were already Adi-Dravidas, Muhammadans and women on the Board and yet, for no understandable reason these classes were again nominated. In the case of Adi-Dravidas especially additional nominations were made curiously enough from one and the same place Tiruturaipundi. All these go to show that the Government are using this weapon given to them to achieve the aims of the party in power. We are therefore anxious that such powers for interference should not be given to the Hon. Minister. Quite recently, Sir, in connexion with the elections to the Chingleput District Board, the date of elections were manipulated, the preparation of electoral rolls was interfered with and even the counting of votes was not free from blame. Such being the case, I do not think we can safely entrust the Government with these powers.

"Sir, between now and the date for the completion of the election there is ample time. There can be no difficulty in holding the elections and making the new boards function in time. I think therefore that this proviso is unnecessary and may be deleted."

30 * Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Sir, in seconding this amendment, I wish to make one or two remarks. The necessity for arming the Government with this reserve power has not been made clear. Especially when the Bill proposes to divide the whole Presidency into three groups and hold elections at a time only for a single group consisting of eight or nine districts, I do not think there will be need for arming the Government with this reserve power. Further there is the danger that these reserve powers may not be used under justifiable circumstances. It is for these reasons the amendment of my hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder seeks to omit the proviso. If the Hon. Minister has got any valid reasons for giving this power to the Government I hope he will enlighten us on the point."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have to oppose the amendment. I have stated, both when introducting the Bill and also during the various stages of the Select Committee, that it is necessary that Government should have this power to use only in exceptional cases. Otherwise, under the normal provisions of the Act, if for any unforeseen reason an election could not be completed within the due date, the local board becomes defunct and it ceases to exist. It is the intention of the Government that such a thing should not happen. Therefore only a limited power of extending or reducing the term of office of members by three months has been taken. This definitely restricts the power of the Government, because if hon. Members would refer to page 5 of the Select Committee Report they will find that the latest date which may be fixed for vacation of office by existing members is 31st December. Government will not be in a position to extend the term of members of any board, even if they want to extend it, beyond this short period. It is found necessary to have this power for administrative convenience and it does not follow that if this power is given every term of every board will be extended, but it will be used only in exceptional circumstances and most probably it will be used in the case of panchayats. I therefore find myself unable to accept the amendment moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder.

"As regards the other charge that whatever powers are given to the Government they are likely to be abused by them, I think no specific instances have been brought to my notice and such a charge has no foundation. I believe I have given a sufficient answer to this already yesterday and I do not propose to traverse the same ground again. With these few words I oppose the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"I shall move my amendment after the hon. Member Mr. Russell moves his amendment [illegible] in item 3."

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* Mr. T. B. RUSSELL:—" I beg to move the amendment that stands in my name—

'*In line* 1 *of the proviso* for *the words* " *provided that the Local Government may* ", substitute *the words, figure, letter and brackets* " (1-*A*). *The Local Government may* ".'

" Sir, the intention covered by my proposed amendment was originally covered by the proviso to sub-clause (i) of clause 2. Now, as a matter of drafting, the words ' provided that ' are sought to be omitted in the amendment that I have moved just now."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—" I second it."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I do not clearly understand what the object of this amendment is. As it stands, the proviso is only ancillary to sub-clause (i), namely, that the term of office of the board as a whole will be extended in certain exceptional circumstances. Now by this change the result will be that not only the board as a whole but also the period of individual members will be extended. That will be the result of the amendment now proposed. I am sure that it is not the intention of the Hon. the Chief Minister to take such a power and extend the term of individual members. The Hon. the Minister has been stating here that the object of these amendments is to make the elections easier. If that is the only object, I do not see any reason why this amendment is proposed which I am sure will give power to the Government to interfere with the actual term of office of particular members. That ought not to be the case. So I am at a loss to understand why this amendment is moved. I hope the Hon. Minister will kindly state what the purpose of this amendment is."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" It is only a drafting amendment and there is no intention on the part of the Government to take power to extend the term of office of individual members of the board. As a matter of fact my hon. Friend, Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, proposes to move a further amendment to this which will make the position clear."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" I consider that instead of the sub-clause remaining as a proviso, if it remains as a sub-clause, it will be better for working the provisions of this Act. Any misgiving which my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, referred to will be avoided when I move my amendment, because when the term of any board is extended, it will only be the entire board and not any section of it. That is why I have given notice of my amendment which will answer this purpose."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I do not know what the object is of enacting a separate clause in place of a proviso. As originally proposed the proviso was only ancillary and now what is sought to be done is to take away the proviso and put a separate clause in its stead. In spite of the explanation given by the Hon. Minister I am afraid the power, if given under a separate clause, is likely to be misused. As it stands the proviso is ancillary to sub-clause (i) of

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clause 2, whereas by putting a separate clause you are giving independent powers to the Government. The Hon. the Chief Minister has assured us that it is not the object of the Government to misuse any power given to them. Such being the case, I do not understand why Government is anxious to have a separate clause."

* Mr. T. B. RUSSELL :—" The intention is only this. Purely as a matter of drafting, a separate clause has been put instead of a proviso. I am at a loss to understand how, if you change the proviso into a separate section, it will alter the effect. I think I shall be able to show a little more clearly that there is no difference between the two when I come to the amendment which I have given notice of under sub-clause (iv). The reason why it has been proposed to put it as a separate clause is that it has been found more convenient to call it sub-clause (1-A) rather than a proviso. It is merely a matter of convenience in wording and if the Hon. Minister agrees, I have no objection to call it a proviso which will mean a slight alteration of the amendment which I shall have to move later in regard to sub-clause (iv). I think the House will now see that there was no sinister intention in changing the proviso into a separate sub-clause."

The Hon Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" I wish to know what objection there is to have it as a separate clause."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, sub-clause (i) is the main sub-clause. It reads thus—

'The term of office of the members of every local board who are elected at ordinary elections shall, save as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, be three years beginning at noon on the day on which the vacancies occur.'

" That is the main clause. Now the proviso says—

'Provided that the Local Government may by notification for sufficient cause which shall be stated therein direct that the term of office of the members of any local board be extended or reduced by such period not exceeding three months as may be specified in the notification.'

" Sir, the two go together. Now by taking them separately and taking away the word ' Provided ' what is sought to be done is, without reference to sub-clause (i), independently power is going to be given to the Government to extend or shorten the term of office. I would ask the Hon. the Law Member to follow the wording there. Now the clause, as it is, is a proviso. It cannot stand by itself. The function of the proviso will be only to qualify clause (i). By making it a separate clause and taking away the word ' Provided ' independent power is sought to be given to the Government which can be used in all cases."

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON :—" I was very much astonished when the Hon. the Law Member said that he was not able to understand the difference between a proviso and a separate clause. But as far as I can see . . . ."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" As a matter of personal explanation, Sir. The hon. Member is misinterpreting me. I asked what precisely the import of the amendment was with reference to this clause. That does not mean that I said that I could not understand the [illegible] and a separate clause."

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Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON :—" As is well known to all draftsmen and lawyers, a proviso qualifies the main idea that is conveyed by the section. Even a sub-section does not qualify the main idea of any particular section. If you have a particular section by itself, that section is part of the Act and if it is a substantive provision in that particular Act, it does not qualify any other previous section or any other idea. That is the main difference between a proviso and a section. A section always means that there is some idea behind it. A proviso means that it qualifies a previous idea which is mentioned in the earlier part of the section. That is a difference well known to lawyers."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" With great respect to the hon. and learned Member who has just spoken, I must say that we are not any the better in spite of his explanation. I was asking for what particular reason it was urged that there should not be a separate section but only a proviso. That there is difference between a proviso and a separate section everybody knows. I suppose it does not require a lawyer to know it. What is wanted here is what difference would it make if the proviso is converted into a section with reference to the meaning of the particular portions involved."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU :—" It seems to me that the difficulty of the hon. Member from Coimbatore does not exist at all if he takes into account the amendment of my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. His apprehension is that if this proviso is converted into a separate clause it might give independent powers to the Government.

" It is also apprehended that the new board's term might be extended and that therefore there will be inequalities with regard to the terms of individual members of a particular board. To clear that difficulty, Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar has suggested in the amendment he has given notice of, that no such thing ought to be done. If there is to be any extension of term it ought to be of the board as a whole and not of individual members. I think there is nothing lost by incorporating this drafting amendment which has been proposed by Mr. Russell."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Sir, this amendment is intended to make the position clear. If the proviso is left as it is, it would only refer to cases coming under section 11. The intention of having a separate clause is that it should also cover cases coming under sections 45 (2-A), 45-A (7) and 240 (5) of the original Act and under clause 7 (b) of the Bill. It is for this reason, to give it wider application, it is now proposed to have an independent sub-clause in place of the proviso. As I have already stated I propose to accept the amendment of my Friend, Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. The fear expressed by Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar does not really exist."

The amendment was put and carried.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I propose that after the words ' of any local board ' in line 4 of sub-clause (1-A) the words ' as a whole ' be inserted. My object in moving this

amendment is clear from the discussion we had just now, with regard to the substitution of the proviso by a sub-clause. So, I move this amendment."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Sub-clause (ii).

* Mr. T. B. Russell:—"Sir, I beg to move the following amendment:—

> '*In line* 4, for *the words* "*not earlier than three months*" substitute *the words* "*within three months*".'

I do not propose to make a long speech as this is merely a verbal amendment."

Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu:—"I second it."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"Sir, I beg to move the amendment standing in my name:—

> '*In line* 4, for *the words* "*three months*" substitute *the words* *two months*".'

"The object of moving this amendment is this: The Government propose to hold elections within a period of three months before the expiry of the term of the existing board. I want to fix the period as two months. I do not see any reason why three months' time should be given; I feel that a time of two months is quite sufficient for completing the election since we know itself how elections can be posted conveniently; hence I move my amendment."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—"This clause seeks to advance the elections by three months from the time. The object of the amendment is to restrict the discretion to a period of two months. I think a period of two months is amply sufficient for meeting the situation. Our sole object is to restrict the period as far as possible."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"I am sorry I have to oppose this amendment. With regard to the holding of the election, the Election Officer has to fix certain dates for nomination, election, etc. Certain number of days have to lapse between the date of nomination and that of election. By some mistake, the time fixed may be less; this may be found out at a later stage; we must give sufficient time to rectify such irregularities. It is always safe to have the maximum time. Three months' time is not an unduly long period to take necessary action."

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Sir, in the Bill as originally drafted there was no restriction placed. At the instance of the Select Committee the other day, it was decided to fix a period of three months it does not mean that in every case the election will be held three months in advance; it is only a reserve power to be used to overcome

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months time for extension; similarly we have fixed three months' time in this case also. I do not see the force of the amendment moved by my hon. Friend."

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

The amendment of Mr. Russell was put and carried.

Sub-clause (iv).

* Mr. T. B. RUSSELL :—" Sir, I beg to move the following amendment:—

'For *sub-clause (iv)*, substitute *the following sub-clause*:—

" (iv) *in the proviso to sub-section* (4), *after the words, 'before the ordinary date of retirement,' the words, figure, letter and brackets 'or before the date of retirement as determined under sub-section* (1-*A*), *as the case may be' shall be inserted.*" '

" Perhaps this amendment will be clear if I explain exactly the history of the proposed amendment to this clause. The proviso as it stands in the Bill runs as follows:—

'Provided that no casual election shall be held to fill a vacancy occurring within three months before the ordinary date of retirement and that such vacancy shall be filled at the next ordinary election.'

" In the original Bill as drafted, it was proposed that after the words 'no casual election shall,' the words 'unless the Local Government otherwise direct' should be inserted. The Select Committee did not wish to give *carte blanche* to the Government to direct otherwise, with reference to this particular proviso. The Select Committee made the amendment that will be found in the Bill now before the House. On further examination it was found that the amendment that I have moved now is necessary to secure the end in view and to cover certain other contingencies also. The effect of accepting my amendment will be that the necessity for holding casual elections will not arise if the casual vacancies fall within three months of the general retirement of the board in any of the circumstances referred to in the Act."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 2 as amended and clauses 3 and 4 were put and carried.

Clause 5.

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Sir, I move the amendment standing in my name:—

'*In clause* 5 (i), for *the word* " *September* " substitute *the word* " *August* ".'

" This particular clause deals with the preparation of the electoral rolls. Upto now, under the existing Act, the electoral roll has to be published before the end of June every year. In support of the change proposed it is stated that the period fixed now is not sufficient to get the necessary information, to get the roll compiled, published and to

have it ready. It is stated that the assessees for any particular year will be known only by the end of the official year, i.e., by the end of March and that sufficient time is required to get the necessary information from the Revenue Department or any other department, to enable the roll to be prepared. By accepting my amendment, the Government would have about five months to have these things done. I do not see why the period should be extended to more than five months. The election has to be finished before the 31st December as stated in the table. If the roll is prepared only in September, there will be a very short period to complete the election. If my amendment is accepted, the Government would have five months time to have the electoral rolls prepared and further four months to have the election held before the 31st December."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Sir, this is a very reasonable amendment. Even according to the Government, the correct information about the assessees will be available about the beginning of the next official year; that gives a period of four months for the preparation of the electoral roll. There will be ample time to have the correct roll prepared and published by the end of August. I hope the Hon. Minister will accept this amendment."

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on. * The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Sir, this subject has been discussed at great length in the Select Committee. One of the main objects of the Bill now under consideration is to give more time to Government to have the electoral rolls prepared accurately and properly. Normally, the new assessments for the year come into force, as every one is aware, only from the 1st of April, but that does not mean that we will be able to gather information about the assessees on the 1st of April. Experience has shown that it takes one or two months to get the information, and then the election staff has to go through that information, they have to prepare the preliminary roll and give an opportunity and necessary intervals for claims and objections. Sometimes there are appeals also, and the Inspector has to hear those appeals. It was therefore suggested that time should be taken till the end of October. Here again I have to state that it does not mean that no electoral roll would be published or completed before the end of October. However, in deference to wishes of the Select Committee we have cut down the period by one month, and I am afraid the amendment now proposed does not give sufficient time to the Government to prepare really accurate and full electoral rolls. I therefore regret I am unable to accept the amendment before the House."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" Mr. President, Sir, it is t our advantage to have a long, rather than a short period after the pre paration of these rolls. I feel that if there are any names omitted by th Government in the electoral rolls published, the electors can apply i time. The Government also are giving longer time for putting in th claims and objections. If the interval is short, the people in th

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their grievances. I therefore request the hon. Mover of this amendment not to press it, because in the interests of the electors themselves, it is advisable to have a longer time."

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" Sir, I beg to move the amendment standing in my name, viz.:—

' *At the end of sub-clause* (i), add *the following*:—" *and after the word 'persons,' in section* 51 (1) *of the Act, the words 'together with their father's or karnavan's or husband's name as the case may be, and age and place of residence'.*" '

" In moving this amendment, I wish to point out that at present the electoral rolls are not prepared with full information in all the districts. It all depends on the whims and fancies of the election officer who prepares the list. In some districts the electoral rolls contain full information in respect of name of the revenue village where the elector lives, name of the elector, name of his father, the place of his residence, i.e., of the particular hamlet in which he lives in a particular village. In some of the districts, all these informations are not given in the electoral rolls. This makes the work of the candidates who stand for election particularly difficult, to get at the actual elector for the purpose of canvassing. They will have first of all to requisition the help of the village officers; sometimes they are not able to get it, and that stands in the way of their propaganda at the right time. In order to avoid such difficulties, I want that full particulars should be given in the electoral rolls and that this policy should be followed uniformly in all the districts. If I am not giving out the secrets of the Select Committee, I may also state here that the Minister himself felt the need for it, and he said he would amend the rules to this effect. But what harm is there if such a provision is made in the Act itself, so that the procedure may be adopted uniformly throughout the Presidency? I may illustrate my point by saying that in the Coimbatore district we find all these informations in the rolls; but in Salem we don't find them. With these words, Sir, I move my amendment and I hope the Hon. Minister will be pleased to accept it."

* Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" In seconding the amendment, Sir, I may say that for want of the particulars mentioned in the amendment, there is much scope at present for malpractices at elections. There are a number of hamlets in each big village, and if the name of an elector is included in a major village, without the particular hamlet in which he lives being specified, it will be very difficult to find out his name, and the polling officer will generally reject his name on the ground that it is not found in the major village. Secondly, a number of voters are impersonated during the elections. The inclusion of the age will give a ready idea to the polling officer. When an old man comes forward to impersonate a young man or *vice versa* the polling officer can easily find him out. So, Sir, in order to obviate these difficulties, this amendment is being proposed."

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* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Sir, I have to oppose this amendment. As a matter of fact, these details have to be gone through at the time of framing rules under the Act. Even now, one of the forms prescribed under the rules requires that the name of the father, karnavan or husband should be given in the electoral roll; but if you go into further details, such as age and place of residence, I am afraid that will be difficult. In the case of big villages and towns which are divided into wards, the wards are given in the rolls. Moreover, in numerous cases we will find that streets are not known by any definite names. Another difficulty is about the age. It is well-known that in this country, it is very difficult to give a definite age for every voter; and the risk will be that by having such a substantial provision in the Act itself, any slightest mistake in the preparation of the electoral rolls would disqualify the voter and prevent him from exercising his franchise. I also find that when read with the main section of the Act, the language of this amendment is not correct. But apart from that, as I said, the rules already provide for taking all possible precautions for identification of the voters; and it would not be either in the interests of the voters or of the administrative authorities to embody the details mentioned in the amendment, in the Act itself. I therefore have to oppose this amendment."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Sir, I would like to point out that the rules allow the inclusion only of the father's name of the elector; the place of residence is not provided for. In practice, however, we find that in certain districts the name and the place of residence are both included in the rolls. There are a number of hamlets in each village, but the name of the main village alone is given and it is difficult to locate the particular hamlet in which a voter lives. At any rate much time will be lost in finding out the voter's residence, and that will hamper the progress of election work. It is therefore necessary to have the place of residence put in. Again, the Hon. Minister thinks that the names of streets are not definite. But I may say that in panchayat areas, each and every street is given a particular name, though there is no sign board to that effect as we find in the Madras Corporation or in big municipalities. So, if the names of streets are given, it will be a great help to the candidates for canvassing purposes. Again, if, as the Minister says, there is difficulty in regard to the age question, I think at least the approximate age of the voter as judged by officers who furnish information for the preparation of the electoral rolls, will be of great help and will avoid the possibility of another individual voting for the real voter. If however the Minister thinks that the inclusion of age will create much complication and difficulty, I am not particular about it. But the Minister can certainly give us an assurance that he will include in the rolls the place of residence of the elector; the hamlet in which the voter lives may be given just in the same way as the name of the village which includes that hamlet. As I said, it is being done in some of the districts, and I do not see why that practice should not be adopted uniformly in all the districts. If the Minister is willing to give an

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assurance to that effect, I have no objection to withdraw my amendment; otherwise, I am afraid I must press it."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" It is not quite clear as to what the hon. Member exactly means by 'residence.' If he means that the name of the street should be given, we are all aware that in this country streets are not given any definite names in the villages; if he is prepared to confine this provision to such of the hamlets as are recognized in the revenue accounts, I can give an assurance that I shall see that the rules are suitably amended in that direction. As regards age, it will land us in great difficulties, and unless we know the correct age, there is no point or meaning in noting an approximate age which would be liable to be questioned both at the time of the preparation of the rolls as well as at the time of the voting. So far as names of recognized hamlets are concerned, I am prepared to accede to the hon. Member's request."

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Sir, I move that sub-clause (ii) be omitted. My reason for moving this amendment is that since we have given sufficient time till the month of September for the preparation of electoral rolls, I do not think it is advisable to give power to the Government to extend it even by a month. As a matter of fact, we have given sufficient time till September merely because that the time that is required would not be sufficient if August is fixed, and the Minister wanted time till September for the preparation of the electoral rolls. Now, Sir, having given such a long time, I do not find any necessity for giving extra powers to the Government to have the time postponed for another month. I am convinced that the time given for the preparation of the electoral rolls till September is quite sufficient and no more time is necessary. As I have already pointed out powers are mainly taken to be used for special reasons. Fearing that this power may also be taken to be used in that way and also on account of the fact that there is sufficient time for the preparation of the electoral rolls, I move this amendment."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" I second it, Sir."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Sir, this provision has been made owing to the difficulties we are experiencing in the case of panchayats; and although one month's time is provided, it does not mean that in every case extension would be given. The main argument of the hon. Member who has moved this amendment seems to be that any power given to the Government is liable to be abused. I am afraid, whatever I might say, I may not be successful in convincing the hon. Member who is obsessed with this idea throughout the discussions. I, therefore, oppose this amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Sir, I beg to move that for sub-clause (iii), the following be substituted:—

' For *sub-section* (2) *of the Act*, substitute *the following*:—

" (2) *A list of amendments and corrections to the rolls referred to in sub-section* (1) *shall in like manner be prepared and published by the prescribed authority before the end of August every year.*" '

" The object of my amendment is this. At present we have got the privilege of including names in the electoral rolls every year, but that privilege is being denied and taken away by the amending Bill that is now before the House. The procedure that is followed is undoubtedly a retrograde one and it has been argued that it would mean a lot of expenditure if the electoral roll is to be revised every year. My amendment only suggests that the existing procedure of revising the electoral roll every year may be stopped and only a list of additions and alterations may be got printed and added on to the roll that has been prepared in the previous year. That means a complete roll once prepared will stand for three years and in the succeeding years, only a list of corrections may be prepared and attached to the list prepared once in three years, so that even for elections to casual vacancies, the rolls may be made up to date.

" Moreover, this will also afford facilities to people who are just a little below the age at the time of the preparation of the electoral roll, to get into the electoral roll at least in the next year and take part in the elections that may take place later. This list of amendments and corrections may thus solve the difficulty to a very great extent and will be a great help to people who are put to difficulty of not being included in the electoral roll originally prepared once in three years.

" I am also sure that this will not cost much to the local bodies concerned, since they have got the agency of the District Election Officer and the Panchayat Officer who will be able to get the information from the Revenue Department and have this addition made every year without great cost. They will have to attach only one or two sheets to the list originally prepared and thus afford facilities to the people. With these words I move the amendment."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" The provision in the Bill is to do away with the annual revision of the electoral rolls. In the first place it is said that it would be costly and therefore not worthwhile to have it revised every year. In the case of the elections to the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly, the electoral rol is revised once in three years and it is proposed to bring the loca boards also into line with the electoral rolls for the Legislative Counci and the Assembly. The amendment does not suggest a thorough revi sion of the electoral roll being made every year, but it only seeks tha an additional list of such names which may require to be included ma be published. I, therefore, suggest that the Hon. the Chief Ministe

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may either accept this amendment or the next amendment which is to be moved later on by Mr. Krishnayya Choudari. Our object is that opportunity should be given for new names being added to the list at the end of every year. With these words, I second the amendment."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Mr. President, Sir, this amendment is a necessary one. Further, if the Hon. Minister has no objection, I would like to add the provision which is contained in my amendment to clause (7) (*d*) of which I have given notice, which the Hon. the Chief Minister has accepted with slight alteration. In view of that—of course he has accepted informally."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"On a point of order, Mr. President, we are in Council and not in Committee."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Thanks very much for the point of order. All the same I request my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder not to press his amendment."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Sir, the amendment as it is worded seeks to restore the existing provisions of the Act. Hon. Members who have proposed and seconded the amendment have stated that they do not mean that there should be a thorough revision. Whether they mean thorough or superficial revision, when once this provision forms part of the Act, it will make it obligatory on the part of the Government to go through the various stages of the preparation of the new electoral rolls; and for preparing the list of amendments and corrections to the rolls all the heavy work which is being entailed now, and even the cost incurred, will have to be gone through. As such, I do not see how this amendment is going to simplify matters. As the very object of the Bill is to ensure that the electoral roll is revised thoroughly before elections in any particular local body, I do not see how it will be in line with the principles underlying this Bill if I accept this amendment. I, therefore, oppose this amendment."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I think, Sir, the amendment that has been moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, is certainly one which would help in having the electoral rolls kept up to date and correct. The complaint that has always been made with regard to elections to local bodies has been that the electoral rolls have been badly prepared, and sometimes the candidates and even the voters are at a great disadvantage. It sometimes happens that, owing to factions and sometimes the influence of parties, names are omitted or wrongly included and it also happens that the exact time of revision of the rolls is not known to the candidates.

"Another point has been made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, and that is that in the case of those whose names are not originally included in the electoral roll, owing to their not having attained the proper age, they might have their names included in the next year. Again, Sir, there may be people going from place to place, and those who are in a particular electoral area may move to another

area and those in the other area might have their names entered in the proper area in which their names should appear. These are cases where it is necessary that the electoral roll must be kept up to date. Now we are embarking on legislation with a view to put local board elections in proper order; and when that is so, I do not see there is any object in taking a retrograde step. Till now we have been experiencing difficulty even in spite of the fact that the electoral rolls are kept up to date, but if you are going to make it more slack, I am afraid you are going the wrong way about, and you will be giving a fillip to people to resort to courts of law and contest the result of elections also. Government will also be put to a lot of difficulty in the constitution of these boards by these electoral rolls being questioned from day to day in courts of law. Further, Sir, I have not heard sufficient reasons advanced as to why the electoral roll should not be kept up to date. If it is a question of cost, as has already been explained, it is not going to be too heavy. And, even if it is going to be a question of cost, I think in view of the purity of administration of local bodies, the extra cost incurred on this account will be worthwhile."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 7.

·30 Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move
n. that the following proviso be added at the end of sub-clause (*d*):—

> '*Provided that the name of an elector may be included in the list on an application made by him before a prescribed time every year before the month of September on the sole ground that the applicant became qualified to vote after the final publication of the last general electoral roll.*' "

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. President, Sir, may I point out that clauses 5 and 6 have not been put to the vote of the House but clause 7 has been taken up for consideration."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" They will be put at a later stage. I would like to finish clause 7 and then clauses 5 and 6 will be put to the vote of the House."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" Sir, I trust that the Hon. the Chief Minister will not oppose the last portion of my amendment. If by a mistake a certain elector's name is left out of the list and it is not noticed by the individual affected, he will be deprived of his franchise. The proposed amendment without the last portion beginning with ' on the sole ground,' will, if carried, result in unnecessary inconvenience, for just on the eve of elections, a large number of people will apply for their names to be put in the rolls. But, if the preliminary rolls had been prepared with care, there will be only a small number of people left out; and the cost to the Government will not be great. I know the Hon. the Minister wants to avoid a larger number of names being put in. But, if the list had been prepared with care, I do not see why this will come about. That is why I request the

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Hon. the Minister not to oppose the amendment. If he insists, there is no other go than to have something good than nothing at all. It is with that idea that I am moving the amendment."

Mr. C. INDRAYYA:—" I second the motion, Sir."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Mr. President, the hon. Member from Guntur said that it was my idea to prevent a large number of persons being brought on the electoral roll. That was not the intention. No doubt, under the existing Act, only two months' time is available for the preparation of the electoral roll. This was inadequate, so that persons whose names were omitted in the list had not enough time to apply and get their names included. But now we have extended the time available with the sole intention to see that these mistakes and omissions are avoided to the fullest extent possible. It is possible for persons who have not taken sufficient care, to get their names included in the roll. But there may be difficulties and there will also be opportunities for political parties to bring a solid block on the roll. Therefore, I am prepared to accept the full amendment moved by the hon. Member."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, previous experience, though short, has shown that at the time of the preparation of the electoral rolls, a large number of people belonging to opposing political parties are brought on the electoral rolls. Without the qualifying clause at the end of the amendment, the door will be open for such pressure to be brought upon the officers in charge of the preparation of the rolls, the election officers or the district panchayat officers. I suggest that the qualification clause be retained, so that anybody not qualified at the time of the preparation of the rolls but who subsequently becomes entitled to be a voter, may have his name entered in the electoral roll. I think that the amendment might be accepted."

The amendment was put and carried.

SCHEDULE.

* Mr. T. B. RUSSELL:—" Mr. President, I move—

' for *the heading* " *Schedule* " substitute *the headings*:—

" *The Schedule*

[*See section* 7 (*a*).] " '."

Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu seconded the motion.

The amendment was put and carried.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

' Omit *the districts of Salem, Malabar and East Godavari from Group III and* add *them in Group II of the Schedule.*'

Sir, the Government have taken powers to extend or shorten the term of a district board by a period of three months, which means they can have a period of six months within which they can hold elections. If these districts are added on to the second list, it will be consistent with

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principle. According to the present grouping they will be having an extension of a year nearly. I want that the boards that had their elections in 1932 should have their next elections in 1935. I understand from the Hon. the Minister that the elections in respect of these district boards were held in 1932. I request the Hon. the Minister will accept the amendment and see that the elections to these district boards are held in 1935 by their being brought under group II. If there is any difficulty, he can extend the period of the life of the district board by three months. No doubt, the Hon. the Minister may say that, by taking these districts under Group II, there will be only some six districts under group III. But, considering that the districts under that group are pretty large districts and, in view of the fact that by such grouping the life of these boards will not be unduly prolonged, I hope the Hon. Minister will accept the amendment. I think the Government will be able to conduct the elections more conveniently and it will also be convenient for the department in charge of the elections."

Mr. C. INDRAYYA :—" I second the amendment, Sir."

Mr. R. M. PALAT :—" I oppose the motion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari. I do not know on what principle he has selected these districts for being included under group II of the schedule. No valid reason has been adduced by him in support of his proposal. It was only after due deliberation that the Government have grouped the districts under reference under group III. In the circumstances, I only think that this is merely an arbitrary amendment and, therefore, I desire to oppose it."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG :—" Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Palat, enquired as to whether there was any principle underlying the amendment. Obviously, these three districts are the districts for which elections fall due earliest among the districts in group III. And secondly, the last elections for these boards were held in November 1932. I wonder what more reason my hon. Friend requires in support of the amendment moved by Mr. Krishnayya Choudari."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, we see that there are only eight districts under group II and ten districts under group III. The districts included in the third group are all big districts whereas among those under group II are small districts also. Besides, Sir, the districts under group III will have a longer lease of life than districts in the first or second groups. It will be a hardship on the other district boards if their terms of office only were to be cut short, whereas the life of the district boards under the third group is more than three years. I think, Sir, no room should be given for such hardship. Therefore, I would request the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government to agree to some reasonable adjustment."

-45 m. * The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I have already explained the view of the Government and how this grouping has been arrived at.

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The main principle underlying the Bill is to have three groups—first group eight, second group eight and third group nine districts. I do not see how arbitrary changes can further the objects underlying the Bill. It has been stated that certain districts should get extensions. I have explained that the idea is to divide evenly the period of three years. In group III they will find that elections were held in the last week of December 1932 or the first week of January 1933. In some cases we find that even after extension the life will be three years or three years and three months. So it cannot be said that all these districts are getting one year's extension or normally the term goes beyond three years. For instance, in Kistna, elections were held on 30th May 1933. That means elections should be held next year. Their term will be not more than three years. So I do not see, Sir, how there will be a complaint on the part of the other districts that extension has been given to the districts in group III. Moreover by this we are not at all cutting down the period of other districts. Although numerous suggestions have been made I find I am unable to agree to any modification of the groups in the list as any change made will lead us to difficulties. I am, therefore, compelled to oppose this amendment."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" If this amendment is thrown out, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder cannot move his amendment."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" My amendment may be put to vote first and then the other."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The practice is to put the more comprehensive amendments first and then the less comprehensive ones."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" I move, Sir, the amendment standing against my name:—

'*In the Schedule in group II* add *the word* " *Salem* " *after the word* " *Guntur* " *and* omit *the word* " *Salem* " *in group III.*'

" In the third group originally there were nine districts and now they are ten. In view of the fact that Tanjore has been bifurcated, the Minister agreed to put East Tanjore and West Tanjore and this has made it ten. Group II is only eight. Group III has got major districts, such as first-class district boards of the type of Salem, Malabar, Ganjam, Coimbatore and also Tanjore. The other districts also, that is, Ramnad, Kistna and other places are considerably bigger. In group II we have got light districts such as Ceded Districts, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Chittoor and Kurnool. Considering these groups, it so happens that elections of one year relating to group II is considerably lighter and the elections of group III are heavier. It is not desirable to have it in an equitable manner. In order to have the work of the department equally distributed year to year, I move this amendment. Even if Salem goes to third group the number becomes nine and the third group also will have nine making almost equal and the work also will be distributed equitably among the groups. It is not the question whether the district is " Salem " or other, but it is a question that the first district in

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group III may occupy the last place in group II. I think there is strong reason for the amendment I am moving. I have been reminded that my membership in the district board will be extended by one year if the existing state is allowed. But I have to look to the larger public interest and hence I am moving the amendment. I hope the Minister will be pleased to accept the amendment."

* Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—" Sir, I second the motion. No proper reason is given for making the group as at present shown. First group contains eight and the second also eight districts. Why should there be ten in the third? Even from the standpoint of the time of elections, Salem, Malabar and East Godavari must go to group II because elections for these were held in 1932. Then there is no reason why the dice is so heavily loaded in group III. So I suggest that the amendment of Mr. Krishnayya Choudari may be accepted. Failing that at least the other amendment, for Salem being included in group II, may be accepted. Otherwise there will be too many in group III."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" I support the amendment moved by my Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, for an additional reason as well. In the normal course of things, Sir, elections should always be held and no extension should be granted. But this Bill contemplates the extension of the term of office of the district boards for one year in some cases and I should submit that those cases where extensions are granted should be few. In the usual course of things extensions should not be granted if it is possible to terminate them in the normal course of their life. In this case, Sir, Salem is a district which comes under group III and if included in group II it will come last from the order in which elections take place in those districts. In view of the fact that group III is over-weighed with too many districts and some districts are of the size of two districts each there is no reason why Salem should not be put last in group II. Malabar, Godavari, Ramnad and Guntur are very big districts. As I said, there is also this reason that in the usual course of events if it is possible to terminate the life of any district board at its proper period, it should not be extended. I therefore support Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder's amendment."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am afraid, that however the districts are classified and whatever the basis of the classification, there is bound to be to some anomaly as Mr. Choudari wants me to say. (' Hear, hear ' and Laughter). Sir, I find from the list in my hands that the three districts of Salem, Malabar and Godavari were the last districts reconstituted in 1932 between 19th March 1932 and 24th December 1932. I find that Guntur was also reconstituted in December 1932, i.e., on 18th December 1932. Evidently the arguments of some of our Friends is that if you can put Guntur in group II why don't you put Salem and the other two districts also in group II. If you go on following this argument I do not know where it will ultimately lead us to. Others may argue that Guntur should go into group III and Cuddapah may say the same thing. After all

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each district will say it is all a question of eight or ten days difference. Some rule must be followed and some reasonable grouping must be made. On the whole the arrangement already made appears to me to be more or less all right."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" I am very sorry for my hon. Friend, Mr. A. Rangantha Mudaliyar. I expected him to come to my rescue. But he has dropped me. (Laughter.) The reason why I want to bring about a change is this. In the second group it has ended with Guntur which was constituted on 18th December 1932. The principle I want him to adopt is this. The reconstitution of Salem took place in 1932 as also East Godavari. If we add all districts for which the reconstitution took place in 1932 it will be one principle. Some people may misunderstand my grouping these three districts together. The thing is this. We conduct the elections for West Godavari in the second group. If we also conduct the elections for the East Godavari, then the establishment need not go from one end to the other end.

" That is another point which I wanted to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Chief Minister. Then, we find in each of the first and second groups eight districts and in the third group ten districts. The principle which I wish to urge on the Hon. Minister is that there must not be a larger number of district boards whose time will have to be extended than we can help it; the less the number of district boards whose time will have necessarily to be extended for a reasonable time the better. It was said that in the Kistna District Board the elections took place in 1933 or so and that it will have four years' life. As a matter of fact, the Salem district included in group III had its elections on 19th December 1932, and that district too will have four years; so also in the case of Malabar and East Godavari. So, I suggest that these substantial districts can as well be transferred to group II, so that the electorates may be given an early opportunity of electing their representatives again. If the Government feels that the second group will become too heavy for them to conduct the elections by including 11 districts in that group, I say you have already got ten in group III and there is not much difference between ten and eleven. But, otherwise we will have to extend the life of those district boards, which will not benefit the people. I do not mind any other Member opposing the inclusion of Malabar, or for the matter of that Salem or East Godavari; but I am surprised that the hon. Member Mr. Palat himself is opposed to the inclusion of Malabar. He is a patriot and a democrat, and I expected him when he got up . . ." 1 p.

Mr. R. M. PALAT:—" On a point of order, Sir. I do not see that arises at all. I merely remarked that it is not absolutely necessary for Malabar to be included in that group."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" Anyhow, it is not a point of order or explanation. I expected the hon. Member to request the Minister to change it to the second group. But to my disappointment, he opposed it and he wanted Malabar to be in group III. The principle

I want to enunciate is that all those districts where elections took place in 1932 should be in one group, and at the same time the Government should see that too many district boards are not unnecessarily given an extension of time. These are the two principles on which I based my amendment. So, I want the Hon. Minister to take those three districts also to the second group which is the more appropriate place for them. With these remarks I request the Hon. Minister to accept my amendment which is not at all unreasonable."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR :—" Even after the eloquent plea put forward by my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, I feel that I should oppose the amendments moved by him and Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. Once we agree to the principle of regrouping, when it has been definitely asserted on the floor of the House by the Hon. Minister that the grouping has been based on a well recognized principle and that it has not been done in a haphazard manner, surely there is no meaning in saying that this district should be here or that that district should be there. There are bound to be some anomalies in the case of certain districts. But as there is a well recognized principle underlying the grouping, it is not at all good to disturb the arrangement for the sake of a slight anomaly. My hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, said in an eloquent manner that it does not matter whether you have ten or eleven in a group. Then, why should you try to transfer one district from one group to another?

" Then, my Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, was surprised that Mr. Palat should oppose the amendment. Mr. Palat, though a District Board President is a Member of this House, and he is as much entitled as my hon. Friend Mr. Krishnayya Choudari to air his views on the amendment. He is not to be muzzled simply because be happens to be a District Board President. I congratulate Mr. Palat on the courage of his convictions, and if at all Mr. Palat has exhibited any courage, it is really courage on the level that has been exhibited by my Hon. Friends, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari and Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, it is a pleasant surprise to see that Mr. Nambiyar has come to the rescue of the Hon. the Chief Minister. Sir, the grouping should be done on a rational basis. I do not understand what Mr. Nambiyar means by saying that the grouping has been done on a well recognized principle. By whom has the principle been recognized? As I said the other day, the districts which are far removed from each other have been put in one group. The proposal of the Hon. Minister is to employ a permanent staff for the preparation of electoral rolls. I submit, Sir, if the grouping is done on a geographical basis, say, if the northern districts are put in one group, the central districts in the second group and the southern districts in the third group, it will be on some rational principle. It will also make for economy. The permanent staff which is employed will then have to move only in a compact area and the travelling expenses will be minimized. As there seems to be a great deal of difference of opinion, I suggest to the

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Hon. Minister to see whether, with your permission, Sir, the consideration of this matter cannot be postponed till after lunch time, so that the Leaders of the Parties may meet together and see that they come to some understanding, and I request the Hon. Minister to accept this suggestion of mine."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" My hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, was saying that his intention in moving this amendment should not be misunderstood. I may assure him that I have not misunderstood him. His principle appears to be that all the districts which completed the elections in 1932 should be in one group. If that if so, there are more than eight or ten other districts in which elections have been completed in 1932 and I find that there will be about 16 districts. Apart from that, I wish to remind hon. Members that in 1935 under the proposals of this Bill the Government will have to hold elections not for 8 districts but for 12 districts, and the proposal of Mr. Krishnayya Choudari is going to increase the 12 by another 3. I am afraid that will not be possible. I have already explained that in arriving at these three groups we have made a list of all the districts and the dates on which the members of each district board came into office. We put the first set of dates into the first group, the second set into the second group and so on. So, I find it impossible to agree to any change in the grouping. We have already debated this Bill at sufficient length and had the benefit of the opinions of the representatives of the various parties here as well as in the Select Committee, and I do not see any object in postponing the consideration of the remaining portion of the Bill till after lunch."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I will now put Mr. Krishnayya Choudari's amendment to the vote of the House. The question is—

'Omit *the districts of Salem, Malabar and East Godavari from group III and* add *them in group II of the Schedule.*' "

The amendment was declared lost.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder demanded a poll, and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

1 Dr. P. Subbarayan.
2 Mr. Yakub Hasan.
3 Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
4 Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
5 ,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
6 ,, Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
7 ,, T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
8 ,, V. T. Arasu.
9 ,, A. B. Shetty.
10 Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
11 B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
12 Rao Bahadur P. C. Muthu Chettiyar.
13 Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
14 Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
15 ,, K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
16 ,, Ahmed Miran.
17 ,, K. P. Raman Menon.
18 Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
19 Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.
20 ,, C. Indriah.
21 ,, J. Kuppuswami Choudari.
22 ,, Mahboob Ali Baig.
23 ,, G. R. Premayya.
24 Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi.
25 Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
26 ,, P. Ratnavelu Thevar.

Noes.

1 The Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes.
2 ,, Rai Bahadur Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu.
3 ,, Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
4 ,, Mr. C. A. Souter.
5 ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6 ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7 ,, the Raja of Bobbili.
8 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
9 Mr. W. Scott-Brown.
10 ,, H. R. Uzielli.
11 ,, C. E. Jones.
12 Diwan Bahadur V. N. Viswanatha Rao.
13 Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
14 ,, T. B. Russell.
15 ,, Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
16 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
17 Mr. R. M. Palat.
18 ,, T. Narasa Reddi.
19 Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai.
20 Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
21 ,, M. Devadasan.
22 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.
23 Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
24 Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
25 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
26 Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar.
27 Rao Bahadur B. P. Sesha Reddi.
28 Mr. G. Sriramulu.
29 ,, P. C. Moses.
30 ,, P. V. Rajagopal Pillai.
31 Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidu Sahib Bahadur.
32 Mr. C. Basu Dev.
33 ,, P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
34 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
35 The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
36 The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
37 Mr. I. C. Iswaran Pillai.
38 ,, A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
39 ,, K. M. Duraiswami Reddiyar.
40 ,, J. A. Davis.
41 ,, H. M. Jagannatham.
42 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti.
43 Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti.
44 The Raja of Parlakimedi.
45 The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
46 Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
47 ,, D. V. Narasimhaswami.
48 Mr. A. Harischandrudu.
49 S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur.
50 Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
51 Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
52 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
53 Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.
54 ,, W. K. M. Langley.
55 ,, J. K. Metherell.
56 ,, G. Simhachalam Pantulu.
57 ,, K. Pattabhiramayya.

Ayes 26. *Noes* 57.

The amendment was lost.

Clauses 5 and 6 and clause 7 as amended were put and carried.

The schedule as amended was put and carried.

The preamble was then put and carried.

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Sir, I now beg to move that the Bill be passed into law."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I second it."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I have to refer to two matters which arose when we were discussing the provisions of the Bill. The hon. Member, Mr. Russell, made some sneering remarks when referring to the attitude of some of us here. He proposed an amendment and said it was only a drafting amendment, which it was not. If he were a lawyer he would have known the difference between a proviso and a substantial clause. He was not a lawyer and therefore he conld not find out the difference. The amendment was sprung upon us. When a proviso is going to be treated as a clause separately, one will have to see what the effect of it would be on other clauses, and no explanation has been forthcoming from the Government. I thought the change might affect other clauses and so asked for more

substantial reasons than those offered by the Government. The Hon. the Chief Minister himself had to admit that his intention in moving the amendment was not merely to make a drafting amendment but very much more. He wanted to make the clause govern not only section 11 which it will govern if it was a proviso as drafted but also sections 45 and 45-A, thereby showing that it was not merely a drafting amendment. I am sorry that, in spite of such admission on the part of the Chief Minister, Mr. Russell should have thought fit to make that remark. After all, we did not want to oppose merely for the sake of opposition. I submit that it was not what we expected from him. As to the remarks of the Chief Minister that some members of the Opposition are obsessed with the idea that the Chief Minister is going to use the provisions of the Bill for his party purposes, I can only say this much. The Chief Minister himself had to admit only the day before yesterday that there was a lot of pressure being brought to bear upon him. On another occasion he had to admit that he had to go out of the way and make a nomination. These are all things one has to be prepared for in party politics. That is the reason why people on this side have to scrutinize every proposal brought forward by the Government. The only way in which the Government can meet this is not by objecting to our remarks but by acting in such a way that no room is given for any suspicion in the minds of the people. It is no good simply to say that some people always smell something sinister in any measure emanating from the Government side. I only appeal to the Chief Minister that at least in future he will not give room to such fears, especially as he is bringing a large number of Bills relating to these local bodies and taking large powers for the Government. For instance, in this very Bill, he is taking powers to extend the period of certain local bodies by *three months, and in a few cases it may extend to six months.* Such being the case, it is up to him to show in the actual working of the Act that there is no room for the fear entertained even by the Opposition. It is only with that appeal and in the hope that in the future administration of the local bodies there will be no room given for suspicion that powers are being used for party ends or for other purposes, I do not oppose the motion."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"I am afraid it is not possible for me to lend my support to the third reading of this Bill. I know that is not going to make any difference, but still I think it my duty to express my views regarding the way in which the Local Boards Act has been amended from time to time. It has been suggested to this House that we should have a plan or programme. I wonder what the plan or programme is in the various amendments that have been brought forward to this Act. We see from time to time either the Hon. Minister or some member of the Opposition—not exactly the first benches but other benches also—bringing forward amending Bills. On every occasion it has been a question of getting over some trouble. It was found that the finances of the district boards were not sufficient to carry on the administration. An amending Bill came for the abolition of the

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taluk boards. After the abolition of these boards, it was found that the district boards became too unwieldy. So the question arose 'Why not bifurcate the district boards?' Thus we see that it is purely a matter of adjusting whenever the trouble came. The trouble has been there all along. Government every time wants simply to feel its way along, as the result of the absence of a plan or programme. All the time the Ministry is trying to take power to set right matters. I do not grudge the Hon. the Chief Minister the taking of power to set right matters. But, as has been observed by more than one speaker, it leads one to suspect whenever power is asked for, that the control of the legislature is lessened more and more.

"I have been complaining often that by these Bills the autonomy of the local bodies has been from time to time interfered with. I do certainly sympathize with the Hon. the Chief Minister in his attempts to see that the administration of local bodies is put on a sufficiently strong and efficient basis. But we find after all we are where we were in the days when Lord Ripon introduced the system of local self-government in India. Instead of power being given to them from time to time, we see these local bodies being constituted into so many branches of the Secretariat. The present Bill is one more instance of that change of policy. I would not call it even policy. I do not think it is right that the legislature should be asked to go on from day to day giving assent to any amendments that are brought forward by the Ministry.

"Then, Sir, where is the necessity for this Bill itself? There has been really no difficulty felt in running these elections. Now, if you are going to have these groupings, it will lead to party factions, and that feeling has been expressed by more than one Member. Why not have the elections all the year round? Is this the system followed in Western countries? We find in England—I speak subject to correction—that the elections to all local bodies take place all at once; at one election one party captures the power, then there is a swing of the pendulum and another party comes up at the next election. That depends on the feeling the country has got with regard to the programme of any party. You cannot get over that difficulty by introducing this system of partial elections, now and then, and trying to control these local bodies. That way you cannot help the growth of self-government in this country."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—"I hasten to congratulate the Hon. the Chief Minister, if not for anything else, at least for his obstinacy in getting through a measure of this kind. It has been pointed out by the previous speaker that it has become a fashion to bring in amending Bills, especially to the Local Boards Act, every now and then. We find, Sir, within a period of three or four years a number of amending Bills to the Local Boards Act, and a majority of them were pushed through in haste. The Bill which was passed into law in 1934 and which contained far-reaching changes, namely, the abolition of the taluk boards which were in existence for a long time, was rushed through in haste. By this measure the Government have taken power to introduce a method which was condemned in the year 1930, I mean the

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method of nomination. No doubt this system was meant to be a temporary measure. Various objections were put forth at that time and the Hon. the Chief Minister was pleased to give an assurance that he would do things properly, and whatever may be the opinion of the Raja Sahib with regard to my reasonableness or otherwise, I hold that the promises that he made at the time when the 1934 Local Boards Bill was passed into law, have not been carried out in the real spirit.

" He said some time ago that I was obsessed with the idea that the 1
Government are not using the powers properly. I may tell him, Sir, that it is the opinion of the general public and not my opinion alone that the Ministry is not doing things in a disinterested way, but that it is using the powers given to it to meet emergencies in such a manner as to serve its own party ends.

" Sir, when provision was made in the Bill passed in 1934 for taking power to make nominations, the hon. the leader of the party to which I belong spoke as follows:—

'I am sorry that an amendment was carried late last evening, by which power has been given to Government to nominate members to the new boards to be constituted by bifurcation in excess of the 25 per cent of the total seats, as is provided for in the original Act; and I hope this would not be utilized to reap any party advantage. I know the Hon. the Chief Minister mentioned yesterday, I am thankful to him for that, that it is not his intention to do so, and I am sure, being what he is, he would keep his word. (Laughter). But still there is a feeling abroad that this power which has been vested in Government might be used for purposes of party advantage. As I have said before, knowing the Hon. the Chief Minister as I do, I am sure that he for one will not be a party to any such movement on his side.'

" I am sorry to state that my leader has proved to be a false prophet in this matter. The manner in which the Tanjore District Board was bifurcated and the way in which nominations thereto were made go to show beyond any doubt . . ."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I wish the hon. Member confines his remarks to the Bill under consideration."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" By way of illustration I am pointing out how the power of nomination was exercised."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" There is a limit to illustrations."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" These things show to the public that things are not being done in a disinterested way. I can understand the party in power taking some advantage of their position, but not to the extent that we have seen in the past few years. This measure gives power to the Government to hold the elections three months earlier or three months later than the due date. This power, again, it is believed would be used for strengthening the party in power, even though the Raja Sahib has promised that it will not be so used and that it will be used only in exceptional circumstances. I hope, Sir, that he will at least keep his promise in this matter and see that the dates of elections to the district boards are fixed in a disinterested manner and not to serve party ends.

" Then, Sir, with regard to the grouping of districts, a peculiar method has been adopted."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I think the House has sufficiently *discussed the question of grouping in connexion with more than one* amendment. I do not think, therefore, that the hon. Member can repeat it."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" My amendment relating to grouping was not voted upon."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" It could not be voted upon because a more comprehensive amendment was voted down."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" I wanted to speak on this *question of grouping, but my amendment in relation to it* was not unfortunately brought to the decision of the House. If that was put to vote, I think there were very strong reasons for the hon. members to support it, and it could have been carried. Leaving that as it is, I would now request the Hon. Minister to see that the elections are held on the due dates. I do not know how the elections that are to be held this year under this grouping system are going to be proceeded with —whether they are to be proceeded with one district after another in the order in which they appear in groups or in any other manner. I expect a reply from the Hon. Minister. Sir, I have explained my position and I believe that as one who is correctly giving out the opinion of the public in the matter, I oppose this measure."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know, Sir, how long the House will sit?."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Before 2 p.m. we will close."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, if it has been decided that we should complete the business of the House by 2 o'clock, I am afraid we will be anticipating the passing of the third reading of this Bill before 2 p.m. to-day. It seems to me that it would be encroaching upon the rights of hon. Members of this House to express their opinions freely and fully on the very defective provisions of this Bill in the manner in which they would like to do. But since a decision of that kind has been arrived at, some Members may be able to speak on the measure while others will have to deny themselves the opportunity of expressing their opinions on it. The result of that will be that we will be passing a hasty piece of legislation of a type which should be avoided by all quarters of the House.

" Hon. Members who have spoken before me have expressed their dissatisfaction with the way in which things have been going on. This is a result of the long extension that has been given to this Council. The term that has been fixed for a Legislative Council, namely, three years, having been extended, the Hon. Ministers do not know what exactly to do. Instead of keeping quiet, they are bringing forward measure after measure which is either ill-conceived or ill-drafted. But running through all these measures, one sees a definite policy to curtail the powers of the local bodies in this province. We have already passed under pressure, unwillingly measures which tend to curtail the

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powers of local bodies. As has been pointed out, as a result of one of such measures, the taluk boards have gone out of existence. The result of their disappearance is that the district boards have come into possession of more responsibilities and duties; and in view of this fact, they have become too unwieldy to function satisfactorily. The necessity has therefore arisen to bifurcate some of them. On this question of bifurcation we have to see whether it takes place in the interests of the people concerned or in the interests of the party in power. In this business of bifurcation we have already instances to show that certain party considerations had their play. From what we saw in the case of Tanjore and Chingleput we are justified in saying that party considerations had their play. The present Bill, Sir, has also to be characterized, I am afraid, as a measure intended to put power into the hands of the Government. This in my opinion ought not to be allowed. We have already pointed out that there is no justification to group the district boards into three circles. This has probably been done in order to postpone elections to the district boards beyond their normal period of three years. That is not the proper thing to do. If the intention of the Hon. Member is to have such groupings of the district boards, he ought to hold the elections to all the district boards in one year and then bring forward this legislation and put it in force in subsequent years. Instead of doing that, he begins with the grouping and puts certain district boards in one group in order to give them extension beyond their normal period. This is certainly not the right thing to do. As I have already said, elections should have been held for all the district boards in one year and then the grouping should have been resorted to. I am not sure whether it is the Hon. the Chief Minister or his present or past Secretary that is responsible for centralizing the local bodies. We have this principle running right through the Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal Act now before the Select Committee. Sir if this policy is going to be pursued by the Hon. Minister in reference to our local bodies, I am afraid they will cease to exist before long."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Mr. President, by the passing of this Bill into law, the Government will be vested with very wide powers. In the hands of an unscrupulous Minister these powers could be used to the detriment of the working of local self-governing institutions in this country. When I make that statement I do not for a moment suggest that these powers are likely to be abused by the present Ministers or any set of Ministers that may come hereafter. But, Sir, it must be realized that it is always dangerous to place extraordinary and wide powers in the hands of the executive whatever the nature of the executive may be. I will mention what sort of powers this *Bill* seeks to place in the hands of the executive.

" Take for instance the proviso to clause 2 of the Bill. It reads as follows:—

'Provided that the Local Government may, by notification for sufficient cause which shall be stated therein, direct that the term of office of the members of any local board be extended or reduced by such period not exceeding three months as may be specified in the notification.'

"I hope hon. Members of this House have realized the implications of this proviso. If this Bill is passed into law, the effect would be this: it would be open to the Hon. Minister either to extend the life of the local board by three months or cut short its life to the extent of three months. We have had instances in the past to show how some Hon. Gentlemen who were in charge of the administration of the Local Self-Government Department have chosen to extend the life of local bodies at their sweet will and pleasure. I think hon. Members of this House would be well aware of the fact how in the case of Kistna District Board its life was extended from time to time without any limit whatever. Whatever may be the explanation which the Hon. Minister may have to offer in the case of Kistna District Board, I submit for the serious consideration of hon. Members that this power of extending the life of the district boards must be carefully used. Therefore I wish the Hon. Gentleman who is now in charge of the Local Self-Government Department should come forward and give an assurance to this House that at least on his part he will see that an extension of life is not given to any board except in extraordinary circumstances over which no one can have any control. If supposing there were floods in a certain district and there is election and it is found impossible to prepare the electoral roll in time, any Government will be justified in extending the life of the district board or the panchayat as the case may be. It is only in such extraordinary cases the Government can be justified in extending the life of a district board. Therefore I wish the Hon. Minister gives us this assurance, viz., that it is only in extraordinary cases which I have just referred to, such as during times of floods or famines, that the life of a local board will be extended. As regards the power to reduce their life, I am not able to understand why such a power is necessary at all. There may be cases where the Government will feel the absolute necessity of extending the life of the district board. But I do not know what are the reasons . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am afraid the hon. Member is repeating the arguments that have been very often stated in this House by hon. Members that have been speaking on this particular motion as well as those that have been speaking on the particular amendment. I hope the hon. Member will not further repeat the arguments."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I bow to your ruling. But I am glad, Sir, you did not state that I was repeating my arguments. However, I would request the Hon. Minister to give us the assurance that this extraordinary power which is going to be vested in the hands of the executive will not be used, at any rate, during his term of office.

"Secondly another extraordinary power that is sought to be vested in the hands of the executive is under sub-clause (b), item (ii) of clause 7 which reads as follows:—

'The Local Government may from time to time postpone any date fixed by them under sub-clause (i) and fix another date in lieu thereof.'

"The effect of this provision may not perhaps be realized by hon. Members by merely reading the clause as it stands. For their

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information I should like to point out how it is possible for the executive to abuse this power. Supposing the date for a district board election is fixed as 10th March, under this clause power is given to the Government to come forward on the 9th March and say that the election shall not be held on the 10th March but it shall be held at a future date, say, in April or May. Sir, imagine the difficulties that the candidates would be put to if the Government should exercise their power in this way. I am sure, Sir, from your experience you would have understood to what extent the candidates would be inconvenienced if such a thing should take place. Enormous sums would have been spent by candidates who offer themselves for the election and if just on the previous day the Government were to come forward and say that they have postponed the election, imagine what an amount of loss will be sustained by the candidates and what an amount of inconvenience will be caused to the voters in that area. I can also quote instances to show how this reserve power was exercised for some purpose—I cannot say for what purpose—by the Government in the past and how the elections to certain local boards were postponed at the last moment thus causing considerable inconvenience and loss to the candidates. I want the Hon. Minister to give us an undertaking that elections will not be postponed at the last moment without sufficient reasons. Of course the expression 'sufficient reasons' is a wide term and can be used for any purpose. So, when I say 'sufficient reasons,' I mean to say when there are such exceptional circumstances such as floods or famines. If such exceptional circumstances should intervene and if it was not possible, owing to such extraneous circumstances, for the Government to conduct the election, then it would be proper on the part of the Government to come forward and say that the election should be postponed. And they would be fully justified in such circumstances. But not in other cases. I wish the Hon. Minister comes forward and gives this House this assurance also.

"As regards grouping, I just want to refer to the injustice that has been meted out to certain districts by including them in this grouping. According to the statement on page 5, you will find that in the case of certain districts in group I, the term of office of members has been put as two years instead of three years."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am afraid the hon. Member was not in the House when the question of grouping was discussed. It is not reasonable now to refer to it, especially when the hon. Member was absent when it was voted upon."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Sir, I am only pointing out that the life time of some of the district boards will be only two years, whereas under the ordinary law it should be three years. Now it is proposed to cut short the term of life by one stroke of the pen. This House may not realize that they are going to cut short the lives of some of the district boards. Some of the district boards like North Arcot, Bellary, South Kanara and Trichinopoly will have only two years life. I wish hon. Members of this House realize this point before they record their vote in support of this Bill.

"With these few observations I would ask the Hon. Minister to come forward and give us the assurance that the power which is proposed to be vested in the hands of the executive will not be abused. Otherwise, Mr. President, I am afraid I will have to cast my vote against the motion."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I do not wish to detain the House by replying to the various arguments which have been repeated on the floor of this House.

"First of all, coming to the serious objection taken by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, I may state that as far as I understood Mr. Russel, what he said was that when he moved his subsequent amendment the House would find that there was no sinister motive underlying this amendment. It was the hon. Member representing Coimbatore who said that there must be some sinister motive underlying this amendment. I do admit that the amendment is not a verbal amendment. I think I have sufficiently explained the reason why the proviso is converted into a further sub-clause and I have also explained that we are accepting the amendment given notice of by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. I have also stated that there is no risk in Government taking this power to extend the term of office and it will only affect a certain number of members of the local boards. In these circumstances I do not personally see anything to which objection could be taken.

"Another point which my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, mentioned was that I admitted having abused the powers vested under the Act."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I said a lot of pressure was brought."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"If I understood him aright he said that I admitted having yielded to undue pressure. Probably he did not hear my speech, and he has not understood me correctly. It is no doubt true that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has stated when the Bill was under consideration that undue pressure might be brought upon me and that I might be compelled to yield to that pressure. What I said yesterday was in this case it was not necessary to put any pressure upon me to make the nominations. No doubt whatever action we have taken in connexion with the question of nomination, it would not have been done in such a way as to please the Opposition. Still I may say that in the administration of the Act nothing has been done against the public interests.

"Now coming to the other remark that I have said that Members of the Opposition are obsessed with certain ideas, I must say that I have used that word with particular reference to the remarks of my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, who has repeatedly urged that any

26th February 1935] [The Raja of Bobbili]

power vested in the hands of the executive is likely to be abused. In that connexion I said that, if my friend was always obsessed with the idea that any power given to the Government was likely to be abused or misused and if he did not consider the amendments on their own merits, whatever reasons I might adduce might not be convincing to the hon. Gentleman. I do not know how the use of the word 'obsessed' is objectionable or unparliamentary. I did not say that all the objections were a result of hon. Members being obsessed with a particular idea. What I said was that the only reason given for opposing the amendment was that the power given to the Government would be abused, and that, therefore, I thought I would not be successful in convincing the hon. Member by any arguments.

"As regards the other remarks which have fallen from various hon. Members, under the Bill as it is now before the House, we are not trying to take away the powers of the local bodies and if my hon. Friends see in these provisions any political motive underlying them, then I cannot help it.

"Some hon. Members who have unfortunately not followed the discussion of this Bill right through have fallen into the error of thinking that for the first time we are changing the system of holding elections for all local boards in one calendar year and that we are spreading it over three years. That is not a fact. Even according to the law as it stands to-day, elections for all the 25 district boards do not come in one year; they are held in the course of two years and there is no method of modifying the life-time of the local boards. It is not regulated by any principle; it varies in various cases. According to the Act, the election is held three days before the 1st November. Therefore it is not a fact that we are changing the existing system.

"I have stated more than once that it is in the interests of the better administration of local boards that this Bill is brought forward, and if I am not able to convince some of my friends even at this stage with regard to the desirability of these provisions, I can only express my regret. Several hon. Members seem to have taken this opportunity of the third reading stage, to suggest that the Government should not be given this power or that power. I may remind my friends that the Government under various Laws and Acts, do possess far-reaching powers and it is not correct to say that no power should be placed in the hands of the Executive Government. If any responsible Minister misuses or abuses the powers, there are constitutional methods open to this House to control his conduct. It is not correct to argue that no power should be given to the Government because they are likely to misuse or abuse it. I still maintain that during all this discussion, the Members of the Opposition have not given any instance to show that the powers given under the Act have been exercised in any way which is against the interest of the Province. With these words I move that the Bill be passed into law."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

The House then adjourned to meet again on the 9th March at 11 a.m.

V.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

[a] *Notification regarding the exemption of the motor car used by the Consul for the United States of America from payment of tax.*

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 453 infra.

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APPENDIX I

[Vide answer to question No. 732 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th February 1935, page 404 supra.]

Statement showing the schemes considered in connexion with the improvement of irrigation in Anantapur district since 1900.

(1) Upper Pennar project (anicut across Pennar in its upper reaches and construction of a reservoir).	Abandoned in 1915 as the supply was very precarious. Question re-examined in 1929 and 1930 but it was found inadvisable to revive the scheme as the supply to Penner-Kumudavathi project would be affected and a great deal of the catchment is in Mysore.
(2) Ithodu project (construction of anicut across Vandameru, tributary of Papaghni and taking a channel to feed Ithodu and four other tanks in Kadiri taluk).	Scheme not productive and also not suitable for famine relief. Abandoned in 1917. Reconsidered in 1930 and given up as water-supply also was very uncertain.
(3) New channel from Hagari river to feed two tanks in Narinjigudlapalli village, Kalyandrug taluk.	Tanks to be benefited too small and extension of irrigation very little. Return of 1·5 per cent only expected. Site of channel not suitable. Hence abandoned in 1930.
(4) Nadimamidi scheme (construction of a reservoir across a vanka in Nadimamidi village, Penukonda taluk).	Proposal unsound and soil not suitable. Abandoned in 1930.
(5) Bhairavanitippa scheme (anicut across Hagari and excavation of channels therefrom). (6) Schemes for the utilization of the flood waters of the Hagari river.	All schemes for the utilization of the flood waters of the Hagari to be postponed until a decision is reached in regard to the Tungabhadra project.
(7) Pillalapalli project (interception of a vanka, and formation of a tank across it in Pillalapalli village, Kalyandrug taluk).	Supply inadequate. Hence abandoned in 1931.
(8) Kannepalli project, Kalyandrug taluk (extension and improvement of the Budamepalli spring channel from Hagari river to irrigate 1,000 acres in Kannepalli village).	Abandoned in December 1931 as it was found that there was a shortage of irrigation under the Hagari even for the registered ayacut by about 16 per cent. No justification to assume that there will be enough supply in the river. Also no facilities for storage of flood waters.
(9) Penner-Kumudavathi project (anicut across Pennar below its confluence with the Kumudavathi river and taking a channel therefrom to augment the supply to Parighi and five other tanks).	Gaugings have to be taken for five years to determine the supply available. A special staff for the purpose is proposed to be sanctioned and necessary provision therefor has been included in the next year's budget.

APPENDIX II.

(Vide item IV at page 412 supra.)

A Bill further to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, *for certain purposes* (*Bill No.* 1 *of* 1935).

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

The Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill further to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, for certain purposes (Bill No. 1 of 1935), has the honour to make the following report.

2. The Bill was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* :—

in English on the 22nd January 1935.
in Tamil, in Telugu, in Kanarese, in Malayalam } on the 29th January 1935.

3. The Committee met on the 24th February 1935, in the Committee room, Fort St. George, to consider the provisions of the Bill.

Clause 2—*Sub-clause* (*i*).—The Committee considers that the reason for which the Local Government may extend or reduce the term of office of the members of a board should be stated in the notification issued by them in that behalf and has made the necessary amendment in the proposed proviso to sub-section (1) of section 11 accordingly.

Sub-clause (*ii*).—This sub-clause proposes to do away with the necessity for the holding of elections in the months of August and September and to use general words, making it necessary to hold the elections ' on such day or days before the occurrence of the vacancies.' The Committee however considers that to prevent elections being held far too much in advance of the vacancies, the words ' not earlier than three months ' before the words " before the occurrence of the vacancies " should be inserted. It has accordingly inserted the necessary words in this sub-clause.

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ANNEXURE

[Changes made by the Select Committee are shown in clarendon type and the portion omitted are shown by dots.]

BILL No. 1 OF 1935.

(As amended by the Select Committee.)

A Bill further to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, *for certain purposes.*

s Act f WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. This Act may be called the Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1935. Short title.

2. In section 11 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act)— Amendmer of section 1 Madras Act XIV of 1920.

(i) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely :—

"(1) The term of office of the members of every local board who are elected at ordinary elections shall, save as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, be three years beginning at noon on the day on which the vacancies occur :

Provided that the Local Government may, **by notification** for sufficient cause **which shall be stated therein,** direct that the term of office of the members of any local board be extended or reduced by such period not exceeding three months as may be specified in the notification." ;

(ii) in sub-section (2), for the words " on such day or days in the months of August and September next preceding the vacancies," the words " on such day or days **not earlier than three months** before the occurrence of the vacancies " shall be substituted ;

(iii) in the proviso to the same sub-section, for the words " after the end of September " the words " after the occurrence of the vacancy " shall be substituted ; and

(iv) in the proviso to sub-section (4), **for** the words

. . . .

"before the ordinary date of retirement," the words "before the date of the retirement of the members of the local board under sub-section (1)" shall be substituted.

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Amendment of section 45, Madras Act XIV of 1920.

3. In sub-section (2-A) of section 45 of the said Act, for the words " expire at the end of three years if it is reconstituted on the first day of November in any year and in other cases at the end of three years from the first day of November immediately preceding the date of its reconstitution ", the following words shall be substituted, namely :—

" expire in such year and on such date therein as the Local Government may fix. The year so fixed shall be either the year in which the next ordinary elections or the year in which the ordinary elections immediately succeeding such elections are to be held for any local board in the same district. The date so fixed shall not be later than the thirty-first day of December."

Amendment of section 45-A, Madras Act XIV of 1920.

4. In sub-section (7) of section 45-A of the said Act, for the words " expire at the end of three years if it is reconstituted on the first day of November in any year and in other cases at the end of three years from the first day of November immediately preceding the date of its reconstitution ", the following words shall be substituted, namely :—

" expire in such year and on such date therein as the Local Government may fix. The year so fixed shall be either the year in which the next ordinary elections or the year in which the ordinary elections immediately succeeding such elections are to be held for any local board in the same district. The date so fixed shall not be later than the thirty-first day of December."

Amendment of section 51, Madras Act XIV of 1920.

5. In section 51 of the said Act—

(i) in sub-section (1), for the words " end of June " the words " end of September " shall be substituted ;

(ii) to the same sub-section, the following proviso shall be added, namely :—

" Provided that the Local Government may for sufficient cause direct that the time for the preparation and publication of the electoral roll for any local board be extended by a period not exceeding one month." ;

(iii) sub-section (2) shall be omitted ;

(iv) in sub-section (4)—

(a) the words "as revised by the list of amendments and corrections, if any," shall be omitted; and

(b) after the words "publication of a fresh electoral roll" the words, figure and brackets "under sub-section (1)" shall be added; and

(v) in sub-section (5), the words "as so revised" shall be omitted.

endment ection , Madras XIV of 0.

6. *In sub-section (5) of section 240 of the said Act, for the words, figure and brackets "expire at the end* of three years if the day referred to in sub-section (2) is the first day of November and in other cases at the end of three years from the first day of November immediately preceding such day", the following words shall be substituted, namely :—

"expire in such year and on such date therein as the Local Government may fix. The year so fixed shall be either the year in which the next ordinary elections or **the year in which** the ordinary elections immediately succeeding such elections are to be held for any local board in the same district. The date so fixed shall not be later than the thirty-first day of December."

lras Acts / of 1920 II of t as nded by Act to ead ect to ain ifica- s.

7. In giving effect to the provisions of the said Act or the Madras Local Boards and Elementary Education (Amendment) Act, 1934, as amended by this Act, the said provisions shall be read subject to the modifications specified below :— Madras II of 1[...]

(a) . . . . The Presidency of Madras (except the City of Madras) **shall on the commencement of this Act, stand divided** into three groups of districts, namely, Group I, Group II and Group III **as shown in the Schedule to this Act** . . . . .

Explanation.—Where a district included in any of the Groups is split up into two or more districts, each of such districts shall be deemed to be a district included in such Group.

(b) (i) The term of office of the members of every local board holding office on the date of the commencement of this Act shall, subject to the provisions of **sections 16, 45 and 45-A,** sub-section (2) of section 54, and sections 56, 57

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and 59 of the said Act, extend to, or expire on, as the case may be, the noon of such date as the Local Government may fix.

(ii) The Local Government may, from time to time, postpone any date fixed by them under sub-clause (i) and fix another date in lieu thereof.

(iii) Any date fixed for a local board under sub-clause (i) or sub-clause (ii) shall not be later than the date specified in column (3) of the table below for such board, and ordinary elections shall be held thereto so that the members elected at such elections shall come into office at noon on the date so fixed. The members so elected shall, subject to the provisions mentioned in sub-clause (i), hold office for the term specified in column (4) of the table below. If before the expiry of such term a member is elected at a casual election, he shall hold office only so long as the member in whose place he is elected would have been entitled to hold office.

Area where local boards are situated. (1)	Class of local boards. (2)	Latest date which may be fixed for vacation of office by existing members. (3)	Term of office of members elected at the next ordinary elections. (4)
I. (a) Districts of Vizagapatam, Chingleput, Madura and the Nilgiris.	District boards	31st December 1937.	3 years.
(b) Do.	Panchayats to which ordinary elections have been held in the year 1934–35.	Do.	3 „
(c) Do.	Other panchayats ..	31st December 1935.	2 „
II. (a) Districts included in Group I, other than the districts of Vizagapatam, Chingleput, Madura and the Nilgiris.	District boards	Do.	2 „
(b) Do.	Panchayats to which ordinary elections have been held in the year 1934–35.	31st December 1937.	3 „
(c) Do.	Other panchayats ..	31st December 1935.	2 „
III. (a) Districts included in Group II.	District boards	Do.	3 „
(b) Do.	Panchayats to which ordinary elections have been held in the year 1934–35.	31st December 1936.	3 „
(c) Do.	Other panchayats ..	31st December 1936.	3 „
IV. (a) Districts included in Group III.	District boards	31st December 1936.	3 „
(b) Do.	Panchayats to which ordinary elections have been held in the year 1934–35.	Do.	3 „
(c) Do.	Other panchayats ..	Do.	3 „

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(c) The president and the vice-president of every local board holding office on the date of the commencement of this Act shall, subject to the provisions of sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 15 and sections 16, 43, **44, 45 and 45-A** of the said Act, hold office up to or vacate office on, the date fixed under clause (b).

(d) The electoral roll published for any local board under sub-section (1) of section 51 of the said Act, as revised by the list of amendments and corrections, if any, published under sub-section (2) of that section **and in force on the date of the commencement of this Act,** shall be deemed to be the electoral roll for that local board until the publication of a fresh electoral roll in accordance with the provisions of the said Act as amended by this Act.

(e) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) of section 51 of the said Act, the ordinary elections which are to be held under clause (b) in the year 1935–36 to panchayats situated in the districts of Vizagapatam, Chingleput, Madura and the Nilgiris shall be held on the basis of the electoral rolls prepared and published in the year 1934–35.

(f) Any vacancy in the office of **an elected** member of a local board which is in existence on the date of the commencement of this Act or which occurs before the date fixed under clause (b), shall be filled by election under the provisions of the said Act as amended by this Act.

Explanation.—The office of a member of a local board to which no person had at any time prior to the commencement of this Act been elected, shall be deemed to be vacant within the meaning of this clause.

(g) Any person elected as president, vice-president or member of a local board after the commencement of this Act but before the date fixed under clause (b) shall, subject to the provisions mentioned in clause (b) or clause (c) as the case may be, hold office up to the date fixed under clause (b).

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• (*h*) If any difficulty arises as to the constitution or reconstitution of any local board after the commencement of this Act or otherwise in giving effect to the provisions of this Act or of the Madras Local Boards and Elementary Education (Amendment) Act, 1934, or of the said Act, as amended by this Act, the Local Government, as occasion may require, may, by order, do anything which appears to them necessary for the purpose of removing the difficulty. Madras Act II of 1934.

Schedule.

Names of districts.

Group I.

Vizagapatam.
Chingleput.
Madura.
The *Nilgiris*.
Arcot, North.
Bellary.
Kanara, South.
Trichinopoly.

Group II.

Anantapur.
Tinnevelly.
Arcot, South.
Cuddapah.

Names of districts.

Group II—cont.

Chittoor.
Kurnool.
Godavari, West.
Guntur.

Group III.

Salem.
Malabar.
Godavari, East.
Ramnad.
Ganjam.
Coimbatore.
Nellore.
East Tanjore.
West Tanjore.
Kistna.

Appendix III.

(*Vide* item V at page 444 *supra*.)

NOTIFICATION.

Fort St. George, January 19, 1935 (*G.O. No.* 196, *L. & M.*).

No. 96.—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931 (Madras Act III of 1931), the Governor acting with Ministers is hereby pleased to exempt from payment of the tax leviable under the said Act one motor-car used by the Consul for the United States of America at Madras.

T. B. RUSSELL,
Secretary to Government.

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